

the part of this Council to require that the amount of money which is to be raised for purposes of famine should be carried to a separate account.

The Government of India, in raising a tax for probable expenditure on account of famine, did no more than it did in raising other taxes for other probable expenses; and such tax was as much a part and parcel of the general scheme of taxation as any others raised for any other purpose. It would not be right to fetter the hands of the Government by any such declaration as was required. Moreover such a proceeding would be found most inconvenient. For instance, certain revenue may fall off, while other revenue might increase beyond reasonable expectation, and if the proceeds from each tax were to be carried to a separate account, and kept religiously apart, the Government might be under the necessity of borrowing sums of money to meet certain expenditure, though it might have large sums of money in hand. It would therefore be impracticable to put any such restriction and do what was proposed. Furthermore, he thought they were legislating in this matter in a subsidiary manner, and the arguments put forward could not very well be urged in this Council.

HIS HONOR THE PRESIDENT said he understood there was, as he believed, no substantive motion before the Council, but the hon'ble gentlemen who had spoken desired to express their views generally on the subject of the taxation. He thought the actual practical difficulty in the matter had been very fully expressed by the Advocate-General. So far as regards the hope held out by the Government from time to time, that the famine taxation raised during the past two years should be spent on works of a character likely to prevent famines, His Honor could only say that everything which had been said by the hon'ble members had his fullest possible sympathy and support. Nothing could be more shortsighted than the abandonment of that great scheme of public works which was inaugurated by Sir John Strachey and supported by His Excellency the Viceroy, and which, he believed, they were as anxious to see carried out as anybody else could be. But unfortunately a great panic arose in England in regard to the future financial prosperity of India, which His Honor thought was a mistaken notion, and in no way justified. It was to that that the country owed the suspension of public works, and not to any disinclination on the part of the Government of India to carry out the policy inaugurated for the prevention of famines. He hoped that now that it had been shown that the finances of India were in a very different condition from that in which they were supposed to be, the restrictions suggested by the Parliamentary Committee would be withdrawn, and he hoped the opinions expressed in the Council that day would do good. No one could be more anxious than His Honor was, and he thought he could give the same assurance on the part of the Viceroy, to see that prohibition withdrawn; but it would be impossible to lay down that this money must be credited to a particular separate account, and stored if unused, whilst the Government was borrowing money to carry on a war, or for any other great public purpose.

The motion was agreed to.

On the motion of MR. MACKENZIE the clauses of the Bill were considered for settlement in the form recommended by the Select Committee.

THE HON'BLE KRISTODAS PAL said he wished to refer the Council to the last paragraph of section 30, in which it was stated that the residue (if any) of such nett amount should be carried to the credit of the local Government of Bengal. He wished to ask if any residue of the nett amount of the tax had been carried to the credit of the local Government, or whether it was so intended.

THE HON'BLE MR. MACKENZIE said that no part of the tax had as yet been carried to the account of the local Government. Unfortunately the proceeds of the tax had fallen short by some lakhs of rupees of the amount which was expected to be raised, and the Government of India had received the entire sum collected, less only actual expenses. As regards the future, the local Government could only hope that the exigencies of the Imperial Exchequer becoming less pressing, there would be some residue left for provincial purposes, in which case it would be devoted to carrying out that plan which the Lieutenant-Governor had so much at heart,—namely, the development of

light railways in those parts of Bengal where they would best serve the end of averting famine and facilitating communication.

On the motion of the HON'BLE MR. MACKENZIE the Bill was then passed.

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES AMONG ANIMALS.

THE HON'BLE MR. O'KINEALY moved that the report of the Select Committee on the Bill to provide against the spreading of contagious diseases among animals be taken into consideration in order to the settlement of the clauses of the Bill, and that the clauses of the Bill be considered for settlement in the form recommended by the Select Committee. He said that hon'ble members were aware that the Bill had received careful attention at the hands of the Select Committee, which had held numerous sittings, and as it now stood, it differed materially from the Bill brought into Council. In accordance with the suggestions of the Government, the Committee had restricted the application of the Bill to diseases connected with horses only; but in order that the Government might be in a position to extend it hereafter, the Committee had altered the definition of "disease." Originally, too, there was no provision in the Bill to prevent the spread of disease except by the destruction of diseased animals; but now the Lieutenant-Governor was empowered to erect a hospital, and if such a hospital were erected in Calcutta, as MR. O'KINEALY hoped it would be, the expenditure would be met partly by the fines imposed under the Act, and partly by the surplus of the hackney carriage fees. Two other important sections had been added to the Bill—one empowering Magistrates to reward police officers engaged in the suppression and prevention of disease, and the other imposing certain penal restrictions upon police officers to prevent their abusing the powers conferred upon them by the Bill. MR. O'KINEALY believed that the Bill, if passed, would be of great benefit to the public.

The motion was agreed to.

On the motion of the HON'BLE MR. O'KINEALY the Bill was then passed.

AMENDMENT OF THE CALCUTTA PORT IMPROVEMENT ACT.

THE HON'BLE MR. BUCKLAND moved that the report of the Select Committee on the Bill for amending the Calcutta Port Improvement Act, 1870, be taken into consideration in order to the settlement of the clauses of the Bill, and that the clauses of the Bill be considered for settlement in the form recommended by the Select Committee. The report of the Select Committee which was in the hands of the Council was dated the 11th of February, but the Bill could not be brought forward more promptly. The amendments made by the Committee were almost all concerning petty matters. In one section the Committee provided that the Government loan should be repaid in equal half-yearly instalments within 30 years, and empowered the Commissioners, with the sanction of the Government, to postpone the period of payment of any instalment, and at their discretion to prepay any instalment before it was due. He should have occasion presently to allude further to that point. With regard to the two points which were raised when leave was given to introduce the Bill, it would be seen that the Committee had omitted the provision contained in the original Bill, empowering the Commissioners to make bye-laws to regulate the supply of water to the shipping, so that the views expressed by the hon'ble member on his left (Baboo Kristodas Pal) had prevailed. The Committee had also omitted section 20, as the Commissioners' tramways were not required for passenger traffic. The Committee had also provided a new form of debenture, and the Bill provided that that form might be altered if necessary.

THE HON'BLE KRISTODAS PAL said he desired to express his satisfaction that amendments had been made in the Bill in reference to the points which he had noticed, and he thought those amendments would meet the objections which he had raised.

The motion was agreed to.

THE HON'BLE MR. BUCKLAND said he had to apologise to the Council for proposing to introduce amendments in the form in which he had given notice of them, and he might say that it was very inconvenient that such amendments should be brought forward. But there were peculiar reasons by

which he was compelled to introduce these amendments in their present form, instead of their being included by the Committee in their report. The fact was that the Bill now before the Council was drawn on certain lines laid down by the Financial Department of the Government of India, and the object of the Committee had been to produce a Bill which would be acceptable to that Department, and with that view, when the Committee were sitting, they consulted the Financial Secretary, and he was also consulted by the Vice-Chairman of the Port Commissioners, and some time later the Bill as amended by the Select Committee was sent to him; but the Financial Department was then busily engaged in the preparation of the budget. Afterwards, when the budget had been introduced, the Bill was returned to Mr. BUCKLAND from the Financial Department, with the suggestion that the amendments now proposed might be introduced. Formerly there were two clauses in the Bill. By sections 5 and 6 provision was made, first, for the repayment of principal and interest; secondly, for the postponement of payments, and provision was also made for anticipating the payment of instalments falling due. Those three things were provided for in the amended Bill by section 6, and then came section 8, which gave the Commissioners power to repay before due date, but not to pay any sum of less than Rs. 10,000. The amendments Mr. BUCKLAND put before the Council now, when taken collectively, amounted to this. The whole of section 8 would be struck out. The provision relating to the payment of equal half-yearly instalments was retained, and power was also taken as before to pay instalments before they became due, in which case no payment was to be made on the due date of the instalment. All that was in effect the same as the provisions contained in the Bill. But the proviso which it was proposed to add to section 6 seemed to be almost identical with the second proviso in the section. Unless he asked the Council to accept the amendments as put before them, he was afraid there might be some difficulty in getting the sanction of the Government of India to the Bill, otherwise he would have preferred the form in which the provisions were specified in the Bill. He would move the first of the amendments, namely, to substitute the words "the Commissioner may, however," for the words "provided also that the Commissioners may" in lines 12 and 13 of section 6.

After some conversation, the HON'BLE MR. BUCKLAND by leave of the President withdrew the motion, and moved that the proposed amendments be referred to the Select Committee for consideration.

The motion was agreed to.

The Council was adjourned to Saturday, the 13th March.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE STOCKS OF RICE IN AND AROUND CALCUTTA.

STOCKS IN HAND AS COMPILED ON —													
NAMES OF MARKS.	1st week of Mar. 1879.	1st week of April 1879.	1st week of May 1879.	1st week of June 1879.	1st week of July 1879.	1st week of Aug. 1879.	1st week of Sept. 1879.	1st week of Oct. 1879.	1st week of Nov. 1879.	1st week of Dec. 1879.	1st week of Jan. 1880.	1st week of Feb. 1880.	1st week of Mar. 1880.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Balaighatta	8,31,500	6,09,000	5,10,000	5,04,500	4,71,000	4,54,000	2,55,500	3,94,000	3,23,200	1,99,000	1,93,900	3,51,000	2,73,000
Ooladanga	47,400	50,000	69,200	83,000	46,500	53,600	11,300	33,500	37,400	27,500	32,400	50,300	86,100
Chitpore, Golabaree, Coomer- tooly, Hatkhola, and Culpy Ghat.	4,53,800	4,68,300	3,64,000	3,77,800	3,85,300	4,03,500	4,60,100	6,51,400	5,91,700	4,85,400	5,07,500	5,10,200	5,34,940
Pashurhat, Pesta, and Jorabagan.	29,500	37,000	24,200	24,700	19,000	22,200	22,000	31,000	28,500	23,700	27,700	48,500	50,000
Tollymore, Chittah, Kidderpore, and Moonbhagunge.	1,09,200	1,44,100	1,02,500	1,01,900	1,09,900	1,06,400	67,000	68,900	69,200	50,200	60,900	1,23,900	1,45,000
21 Minor Bazzas (estimated) ...	2,40,000	2,40,000	2,40,000	2,40,000	2,40,000	2,40,000	2,40,000	2,40,000	2,40,000	2,40,000	2,40,000	2,40,000	2,40,000
Other retail shops, 2,129 in number (estimated.)	2,50,000	2,50,000	2,50,000	2,50,000	2,50,000	2,50,000	2,50,000	2,50,000	2,50,000	2,50,000	2,50,000	2,50,000	2,50,000
Baidyabatty, Nowabpore, Bhuddresaur, and Chander- nagore.	95,400	85,897	62,705	76,923	61,476	51,913	64,014	77,434	65,290	29,506	23,412	30,213	27,000
Total	21,04,589	19,84,297	16,38,805	16,33,525	15,31,176	16,41,612	13,73,214	17,48,234	16,05,290	13,04,708	13,55,213	16,10,013	17,06,960
On Railway premises both sides the river.	2,300 (on 3rd March 79.)	2,778 (on 3rd April 79.)	3,104 (on 3rd May 79.)	3,598 (on 2nd June 79.)	2,803 (on 3rd July 79.)	5,374 (on 4th Aug. 79.)	5,356 (on 3rd Sept. 79.)	4,358 (on 3rd Oct. 79.)	1,250 (on 4th Nov. 79.)	2,766 (on 5th Dec. 79.)	11,264 (on 5th January 80.)	2,240 (on 3rd Feb. 80.)	3,488 (on 3rd Mar. 80.)
On boats un- loaded as by { Port Commis- sioners' re- turns.	44,739 (1st to 3rd March 79.)	33,792 (1st to 3rd April 79.)	15,214 (1st to 3rd May 79.)	22,583 (31st May to 2nd June 79.)	30,577 (1st to 3rd July 79.)	42,991 (1st to 3rd Aug. 79.)	27,297 (1st to 3rd Sept. 79.)	37,113 (1st to 3rd Oct. 79.)	19,590 (1st to 3rd Nov. 79.)	25,318 (3rd to 5th Dec. 79.)	45,599 (1st to 3rd January 80.)	79,051 (1st to 3rd Feb. 80.)	74,672 (1st to 3rd Mar. 80.)
Onal returns...	46,060 (1st to 3rd March 79.)	13,901 (1st to 3rd April 79.)	7,313 (1st to 3rd May 79.)	3,215 (31st May to 2nd June 79.)	12,748 (1st to 3rd July 79.)	43,948 (1st to 3rd Aug. 79.)	12,483 (1st to 3rd Sept. 79.)	21,128 (1st to 3rd Oct. 79.)	22,033 (1st to 3rd Nov. 79.)	8,453 (3rd to 5th Dec. 79.)	56,977 (1st to 3rd January 80.)	1,17,558 (1st to 3rd Feb. 80.)	53,364 (1st to 3rd Mar. 80.)
Grand Total of Stocks ...	21,95,000	19,34,768	16,67,136	16,68,698	16,35,103	16,95,895	14,18,920	18,10,933	16,48,132	13,42,232	14,69,953	18,04,961	18,67,854
Probable stocks available for exportation by sea.	10 lakhs.	8½ lakhs.	6 lakhs.	6 lakhs.	5½ lakhs.	6½ lakhs.	3½ lakhs.	7½ lakhs.	6 lakhs.	3 lakhs.	4 lakhs.	7½ lakhs.	8 lakhs.

STATISTICAL DEPARTMENT,
The 6th March 1880.

A. MACKENZIE,
Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

The following Statement shows the several Routes followed by the Trade in the principal Staples of Traffic imported into Calcutta during the month of December 1879.

IMPORTS INTO CALCUTTA.

Specification of routes.	FOOD-GRAINS.					FIBROUS PRODUCTS.		OILSEEDS.		Tea, Indian.	Cotton, raw.	Silk, raw.	SUGAR.	
	Rice.	Paddy.	Wheat.	Gram and pulses.	Other food-grains.	Jute, raw.	Gunny bags.	Linseed.	Mustard seed.				Refined.	Unrefined.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	No.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
By country boats	5,66,172	84,630	54,733	47,854	4,507	6,55,303	922,287	77,608	32,263	.....	9,533	830	5,353	66,328
" river steamers	817	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,62,027	.....	.....	.....	47,752	.....	18	.....	.....
" rail (East Indian)	2,17,685	.....	1,49,133	54,269	9,335	.....	.....	70,974	80,493	2,201	1,07,658	149	1,119	18,206
" road (Eastern Bengal)	3,782	.....	.....	4,607	61	4,50,580	265,254	4,170	2,403	10,563	.....	518	7	811
" sea	69,226	25,598	66	50	.....	65,173	17,450	148	.....	.....	226	31	1,171	12,380
" sea	17,399	6,318	.....	2,208	27	1,402	12,000	.....	.....	986	5,825	203	7,794	.....
Grand total of Imports { 1879...	11,76,081	1,16,552	2,38,932	1,39,048	13,930	13,45,235	1,214,091	1,51,900	1,15,150	67,602	1,23,042	1,814	15,337	89,222
in December ... { 1878...	16,36,841	97,003	1,17,154	1,44,806	41,607	14,34,907	2,350,607	1,74,403	90,180	52,919	1,23,903	1,193	12,063	45,971

The following Statement shows the Quantities, Values, and Numbers of the principal Staples of Traffic exported inland from Calcutta during the month of December 1879.

EXPORTS FROM CALCUTTA.

Whither exported.	Cotton piece-goods (European).	Cotton twist (European).	Salt.	Gunny-bags.	Whither exported.	Cotton piece-goods (European).	Cotton twist (European).	Salt.	Gunny-bags.
BENGAL.	Rs.	Mds.	Mds.	No.	CHOTA NAGPORE.	Rs.	Mds.	Mds.	No.
Burdwan	5,81,834	952	28,337	37,950	Hazariabagh	1,24,960	13	3,551	5,040
Bankura	90,920	.....	.....	.....	Manbhum	60,160	429	2,394	3,619
Beerbhoom	.....	251	8,374	80,885	Total of Chota Nagpore	1,85,120	442	5,945	8,659
Midnapore	6,660	538	861	17,315	Grand total of supplies into the provinces under the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.	62,70,783	13,184	4,61,185	1,018,234
Hoochly	55,524	773	2,584	51,442	OTHER PROVINCES.	.....	.....	.....	.....
24-Pergunnahs	2,22,839	645	17,976	300,941	Assam	5,49,523	664	24,003	.....
Nudda	12,59,671	1,932	12,916	6,343	North-Western Provinces	33,29,760	2,536	5,040	378,020
Jessore	27,053	461	10,565	8,000	Punjab	20,44,320	2,542	.....	248,300
Moorsheadabad	2,93,410	111	9,004	78,181	Central Provinces	1,04,329	231	.....	40,950
Dinapore	1,07,940	55	1,625	290	Rajpootana States	2,91,600	70	.....	17,040
Rajahmundry	1,48,400	44	1,400	6,700	Bombay	90,654	8	.....	780,300
Bogra	65,900	18	300	.....	Madras	45,565	1,490	.....	95,174
Patna	2,45,280	269	57,953	17,825	Nizam's Territory	1,760	.....	.....	.....
Patna	1,50,720	99	5,450	.....	British Burmah	1,09,753	1,052	1	590,200
Jalpigore	5,26,640	1,645	35,975	.....	Pondicherry	.....	.....	.....	5,000
Dacca	2,94,570	726	28,830	.....	Other places	2,22,104	80	13,698	2,358,211
Furzedpore	81,734	499	10,357	.....	Grand total of Exports { 1879	1,51,11,204	21,857	5,01,928	5,633,105
Backergunge	3,938	70	24,650	.....	in December ... { 1878	1,23,91,563	20,623	4,19,393	5,145,236
Mymensingh	.....	.....	3,575	.....				
Tipperah	1,37,001	131	.....	82,700					
Chittagong	11,937	60	4,000	.....				
Noakhali	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Total of Bengal	43,84,773	9,310	2,87,602	688,462					
BEHAR.	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Patna	8,92,640	224	81,756	159,130					
Shahabad	2,54,320	41	13,703	14,000					
Muzafferpore	5,14,480	.....	4,712	6,067					
Durbhanga	7,64,900	567	21,884	22,782					
Saran	.....	.....	2,301	16,650					
Monohyr	2,14,080	72	7,505	18,765					
Hbagulpore	2,91,360	85	13,086	36,223					
Purneah	2,15,320	59	2,823	4,850					
Maidah	.....	80	10,475	1,390					
Sonthal Pergunnahs	3,32,240	290	9,391	15,645					
Total of Behar	84,82,240	1,418	1,67,638	297,012					
ORISSA.	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Cuttack	2,05,050	1,419	.....	1,900					
Pooree	.....	.....	.....	1,000					
Balasore	10,600	595	.....	16,800					
Total of Orissa	2,15,650	2,014	.....	19,700					

The Sea-borne Trade of Calcutta in these staples during the month of December 1879 was as follows:—

	Rs.*	Mds.	Mds.	No.
IMPORTED INTO CALCUTTA—				
From Foreign Ports—				
United Kingdom	83,11,332	11,799	6,40,176	.....
Other foreign ports	30,601	203	.....	1,300
Total of foreign trade	83,42,043	12,002	6,40,176	1,300
From Indian Ports—				
Bombay	2,065	.....	43,120	.....
Madras	6,674	.....	.....	.....
British Burmah	11,250	.....	2	.....
Other Indian ports	.....	.....	.....	1,150
Total of interport trade	22,000	.....	43,122	10,500
Grand total of Imports { 1879	83,64,032	12,002	6,83,298	12,000
in December ... { 1878	61,27,017	8,762	4,27,323	150,777

The following Statement shows the several Routes followed by the Trade in the principal Staples of Traffic exported from Calcutta during the month of December 1879.

SPECIFICATION OF ROUTES.	Cotton piece-goods (European).		Cotton twist (European).		Salt.	Gunny-bags.
	Rs.	Mds.	Mds.	No.		
By country boats	1,15,512	2,952	2,50,147	494,296		
" river steamers	5,66,952	807	6,003	.....	
" rail (East Indian)	1,05,06,480	8,494	2,02,315	1,500,600		
" road (Eastern Bengal)	31,05,500	3,696	50,574	.....	
" sea	2,39,571	1,158	6,938	10,616		
" sea	5,79,289	4,699	1	3,027,691		
Grand total of Exports in December { 1879	1,51,11,204	21,857	5,01,928	5,633,105		
..... { 1878	1,23,91,563	20,623	4,19,393	5,145,236		

* As per tariff declaration value.

STATISTICAL DEPARTMENT,
The 6th March 1880.

A. MACKENZIE,
Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

Rainfall, Weather, and State and Prospects of the Crops.

Statement showing Rainfall, Weather, and State and Prospects of the Crops in the different Districts of Bengal, as reported to Government during the week ending the 6th March 1880.

No.	District, and date of return.	Rainfall at Sudder Station in inches.	Character of the weather, state and prospects of the crops, and state of health at date.
BENGAL.			
<i>Western Districts.</i>			
BORDWAN DIV.	1 Burdwan, Mar. 6 '80	Nil	Weather—seasonable. <i>Rubbee</i> crops being reaped. Prospects good. Public health good. Some cases of cattle disease in Culna sub-division.
	2 Bankoora, " 6 "	Nil	Weather—gradually getting warmer. Maximum reading 85° in shade. Barley and wheat being gathered. Pressing of sugarcane going on. Ploughing in progress. Prospects good. A few cases of small-pox and cholera in Bishenpore sub-division.
	3 Beerbhoom, " 6 "	Nil	Weather—still pleasant. Cultivation very forward. The few crops on ground good, except sugarcane. Cholera still prevalent.
	4 Midnapore, Ghatal " 6 " 1'32	Nil	Weather—rather cool for the season. Prospects of crops, where any, good.
	5 Hooghly, " 6 "	Nil	Weather—clear throughout week. Wind from south-east. Vegetables doing well. Potatoes almost gathered. In places ploughing commenced. Small-pox prevails in some parts of district. Cholera in thana Serampore.
	Howrah, " 8 "	Nil	Weather—fine and clear. <i>Boro dhan</i> being sown. Public health good, though sporadic attacks of small-pox reported.
<i>Central Districts.</i>			
PRESIDENCY DIV.	6 24-Pergunnahs, Mar. 6 '80	Nil	Weather—hot; mornings and evenings cool. Cold-weather crops gathered. Land being prepared for cultivation of early rice. Sporadic cases of cholera in Baraset and Bussirhat.
	7 Nuddea, " 6 "	Nil	Weather—warm and clear. State of crops fair.
	8 Jessore, " 6 "	Nil	Weather—fine and clear. Daily growing warmer. Prospects of crops on ground generally good. Ploughing for rice going on. Stray cases of cholera.
	9 Moorsshedabad, " 6 "	Nil	Weather—getting hot. Reaping of <i>rubbee</i> crops commenced and prospects good. Fever and cholera still in some thanas. Small-pox in Kalyangunge and Sujagunge thanas.
RAJSHAHY AND COOCH BEHAR DIV.	10 Dinagopore, Mar. 5 '80	Nil	Weather getting warmer, with high west winds. <i>Rubbee</i> crops nearly all harvested. Rice 17 to 23 aers per rupee.
	11 Rajshahye, " 6 "	Nil	Weather—much warmer. Condition of <i>rubbee</i> crops and <i>boro dhan</i> continues good. <i>Amra</i> and <i>teel</i> being sown. Mustard being harvested.
	12 Rangpore, " 5 "	Nil	Weather—seasonable. State and prospects of winter crops continue very satisfactory. Public health good.
	13 Bogra, " 6 "	Nil	Weather—fine; growing warm. Ploughing for <i>aus</i> going on; such small crops as are still on ground doing well.
	14 Pubna, " 6 "	Nil	Weather—growing hot day by day. Morning and evening cool and pleasant. State of crops good. Public health good.
	15 Darjeeling, " 6 "	Nil	Weather—cloudy; occasional sunshine. In Terai very little wheat and barley on ground; land being cleared for <i>bhadoi</i> rice. In Hills wheat and barley on ground; Indian-corn, <i>sama</i> , <i>kaoni</i> , and <i>phaplar</i> being sown.
	16 Julpigoree, " 6 "	Nil	Weather—fine. Temperature gradually increasing. Land being cultivated for <i>bhadoi</i> . Wheat and sugarcane good. General health good.
	Cooch Behar, " 4 "	Nil	Weather—fair. Getting much warmer. Tobacco being cut and looks very well. All crops progressing favorably. Small-pox still very prevalent and will probably increase in the warmer weather.

No.	District and date of return.	Rainfall at Sudder Station in inches.	Character of the weather, state and prospects of the crops, and state of health at date.
BENGAL. — (Continued.)			
<i>Eastern Districts.</i>			
Dacca Divn.	17 Dacca, Mar. 6 '80 Manickgunge (for week ending 3rd Mar.)	Nil 0.03	Weather—warm. Sowings of <i>aus</i> paddy continue in low lands. Prospects of crops very favorable. Public health good.
	18 Furreedpore, „ 6 „	Nil	Weather—fair. State of crops on ground good. Ploughing for next crops going on. Cases of small-pox here and there in Madaripore sub-division.
	19 Backergunge, „ 4 „	Nil	Weather—fine and bright. Mornings and evenings still cool and pleasant. Prospects of crops generally favorable. Small-pox has appeared at Bhola: elsewhere public health good.
	20 Mymensingh, „ 5 „	Nil	Weather—fine and cool. State and prospects of crops good.
	21 Tipperah, „ 5 „ Brahmunberiah „ „ Chandpore „ „	0.15 0.50 0.10	Slight rain in several parts of district, but weather on the whole fair. Ploughing going on. <i>Boro dhan</i> thriving
Chittagong Divn.	22 Chittagong, Mar. 9 '80	Nil	Weather—getting warmer. State of crops good. Cholera continues in Moiscal and re-appeared in Teknaaf, Roum and Saffania. Cattle disease in Mirkasera. Common rice about 20 seers per rupee.
	23 Noakholly, „ 4 „	Nil	Weather—cool. State and prospects of crops good.
	24 Chittagong Hill Tracts, „ 2 „	Nil	Cool and pleasant mornings. People very busily engaged in cutting <i>jums</i> . Cold-weather and spring crops doing well.
	Hill Tipperah, „ 3 „	Nil	Weather—bright and gradually getting warmer. Prospects of crops continue good. Public health good.
BEHAR.			
Patna Divn.	25 Patna, Mar. 6 „	Nil	Weather—seasonable. Prospects of <i>rubbee</i> good.
	26 Gya, „ 6 '80	Nil	Weather—seasonable. Maximum reading in shade reached as high as 90°. <i>Rubbee</i> in a prosperous condition. A few cases of small-pox reported from a few places.
	27 Shahabad, „ 6 „	Nil	Weather—cloudy occasionally with west wind. Prospects of <i>rubbee</i> excellent. <i>Maghra rahar</i> , <i>masoor</i> and <i>peas</i> still being harvested. Public health good.
	28 Durbhanga, „ 6 „	Nil	Weather—clear, with west wind. <i>Rubbee</i> continues excellent. Sugarcane pressing in progress. Prices stationary. Public health good.
	29 Mozufferpore, „ 6 „	Nil	Weather—mild and clear. Prospects of <i>rubbee</i> crops continue very good. <i>Peas</i> and <i>mustard</i> being harvested. Public health good.
	30 Saran, „ 6 „	Nil	Weather—clear and bright; mornings and evenings cool. West wind prevailing. Prospects of all crops excellent. Prices stationary. General health good.
Bhagulpore Divn.	31 Chumpan, „ 6 „	Nil	Weather—fine; getting warm. State and prospects of crops excellent.
	32 Monghyr, Mar. 6 '80	Nil	Weather—becoming warm, with west winds. Prospects of crops good.
	33 Bhagulpore, „ 6 „	Nil	Weather—cold in early morning and evening, but getting hot in daytime. Prospects of good outturn of <i>rubbee</i> crops. Public health good.
	34 Patna, „ 6 „	Nil	Weather—seasonable; winds westerly. Cold-weather crops excellent. Small-pox in south-east, but not increasing.
	35 Maldah, „ 6 „	Nil	Weather—getting warm; mornings and evenings still cool. Crops in field in good condition. Public health continues good.
	36 Sonthal Pergah, „ 7 „	Nil	Weather—getting warm, but nights cool. Ploughing going on. <i>Rubbee</i> prospects improved by late rain.

No.	District, and date of return.	Rainfall at Sudder Station in inches.	Character of the weather, state and prospects of the crops, and state of health at date.
ORISSA.			
Orissa Div.	37 Cuttack, Mar. 6 '80	Nil	Days warm; mornings cool. <i>Dalus</i> crop progressing well. Small-pox, cattle disease and cholera in several parts of district. Common rice 19½ to 21 seers per rupee.
	38 Pooree, " 4 "	Nil	Weather—getting warm. <i>Sarud</i> harvest over. Ploughing going on. Cold-weather crops doing well. Most cereals fully harvested. Sporadic cases of cholera in town and some parts of mofussil. Small-pox still prevails. Rice 20 to 26 seers per rupee.
	39 Balasore, " 5 "	Nil	Weather—seasonable. Heavy rain of previous week beneficial to ploughing which has already commenced. A few cases of cholera and small-pox.
CHOTA NAGPORE.			
<i>South-West Frontier Agency.</i>			
	40 Hazareebagh, Mar. 5 '80	Nil	Weather—seasonable. State and prospects of <i>rubber</i> crops continue satisfactory. Public health good.
	41 Lohardugga, " 6 "	Nil	Weather—seasonable. West winds have set in. Prospects continue good. Small-pox still prevalent.
	42 Singbhoom, " 5 "	Nil	Weather—bright and warm. No crops now on ground. Ploughing in active progress everywhere. Cholera disappeared.
	43 Manbhoom, " 5 "	Nil	Weather—getting hotter. Damage to <i>rubber</i> crops by late hailstorm reported from Purulia and Chas (centre and west of district). Reports from other stations favorable. Public health generally good.

Published for general information.

CALCUTTA, STATISTICAL DEPT.,
The 9th March 1880.A. MACKENZIE,
Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

RETAIL PRICES-CURRENT of Food-grains, Firewood, and Salt in the under-

Number.		DISTRICTS	QUANTITIES PER RUPEE BY																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																			
			WHEAT.			BARLEY.			RICE, BEST SORT.			RICE, COMMON.			BULBUSH MILLET— CUMBOO, BAJRA.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																							
			Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																					
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1	Burdwan

- A In the interior the prices range as follow :—Wheat 12½ to 12¾ seers, barley (in (ulna) 26 seers, best rice 13½ to 16 seers, common rice 15½ to 20 seers, and gram 13 to 13½ seers.
- B In the interior the prices range as follow :—Wheat 9 to 12 seers, barley 20 to 32 seers, best rice 12 to 16 seers, common rice 15 to 17 seers, maize or Indian-corn 13 to 32 seers, and gram 9½ to 12 seers.
- C In the interior the prices range as follow :—Wheat 10½ to 12½ seers, best rice 13½ to 19½ seers, common rice 16½ to 21 seers, and gram 10 to 13 seers.
- D In Ghatal the prices are—Wheat 10½ seers, barley 15½ seers, best rice 13½ seers, common rice 16 seers, and gram 13 seers.
- E In the interior the prices range as follow :—Wheat 11 to 12½ seers, barley 16 to 20 seers, best rice 7 to 12 seers, common rice 13 to 16½ seers, and gram 12 to 12½ seers.
- F In the interior the prices range as follow :—Wheat 10 to 10½ seers, barley 13½ to 15 seers, best rice 7 seers, common rice 10½ to 16 seers, and gram 12½ to 13½ seers.
- G In the interior the prices range as follow :—Wheat 9 to 13 seers, barley 14 to 20 seers, best rice 7½ to 15 seers, common rice 13 to 18 seers, and gram 10 to 12 seers.

mentioned Districts of Bengal for the Fortnight ending 29th February 1880.

THE BEER OF 80 TOLAHS.

GRANAT MILLET— CHOLU, JOWAR.			LESSER MILLETS— KACI OR MURWA AND CHENNA.			MAIZE OR INDIAN CORN.			GRAM			FIRKWOOD.			SALT.			DISTRICTS.		
Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.			
BENGAL.																			DISTRICTS.	
Western Districts.																				
S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	Burdwan.		
...	Bankura.		
...	Beerbhoom.		
...	Midnapore.		
...	Hoochly.		
...	Howrah.		
Central Districts.																		DISTRICTS.		
17	8	17	8	17	12	15	4	15	4	20	0	13	8	13		8	Calcutta.
...	24-Pergunnahs.	
...	Nuddea.	
...	Jessore.	
...	Moorshedabad.	
...	Dinapore.	
...	Rajahmundry.	
...	Rangpore.	
...	Bogra.	
...	Tubna.	
...	Darjeeling.	
...	Jalpaigore.	
Eastern Districts.																		DISTRICTS.		
...	Dacca.
...	Farrukpore.
...	Backergunge.
...	Mymensingh.	

H In the interior the prices range as follow:—Wheat 6 to 8 seers, best rice 7 to 16 seers, common rice 14 to 19 seers, and gram 8 to 12 seers.

I In the interior the prices range as follow:—Wheat 10 to 11 seers, best rice 11 to 17½ seers, common rice 15 to 19 seers, and gram 12 to 14 seers.

J In Nattore the prices are—Wheat 11½ seers, best rice 8½ seers, common rice 19½ seers, and gram 10½ seers.

K In the interior the prices are—Wheat 11½ to 15 seers, best rice 9 to 16 seers, common rice 18 to 20 seers, and gram 7½ to 8 seers.

L In Serajgunge the prices are—Wheat 15 seers, best rice 8 seers, common rice 10 seers, and gram 10 seers.

M In the interior the prices range as follow:—Best rice 5 to 13 seers, common rice 15 to 20 seers, lesser millets (in Kureong) 13 seers, and maize or Indian-corn (in Kureong) 13 seers, and gram 6 to 7 seers.

N In the interior the prices range as follow:—Wheat 8 seers, best rice 10 to 13 seers, common rice 16 to 20 seers, and gram 7½ to 9 seers.

O In the interior the prices range as follow:—Best rice 12 to 18½ seers, common rice 18 to 21 seers, and gram (in Naraingunge) 12½ seers.

P In the interior the prices range as follow:—Wheat (in Goalundo) 11 seers, barley (in Goalundo) 14 seers, best rice 13 to 14 seers, common rice 17 to 20 seers, and gram (in Goalundo) 9 seers.

Q In the interior the prices range as follow:—Best rice 12 to 16 seers, common rice 14 to 17 seers, and gram 8 seers.

R In the interior the prices range as follow:—Wheat 10 to 15 seers, best rice 8 to 25 seers, common rice 18 to 31 seers, and gram 8 to 13 seers.

RETAIL PRICES-CURRENT of Food-grains, Firewood, and Salt in the under-

Number.		DISTRICTS.	QUANTITIES PER RUPEE BY																							
			WHEAT.			BARLEY			RICE, BEST SORT.			RICE, COMMON.			BULRUSH MILLET— GUMBOO, BAJRA.											
			Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.						
Eastern Districts.—(Contd.)		S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	
31	Chittagong	S 9 0	9 0	9 0	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	10 0	18 0	18 0	14 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	
32	Noakhali	T ...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	9 8	18 0	18 0	14 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	
33	Tipperah ... ..	...	10 8	10 8	9 0	...	...	16 8	16 0	9 0	24 8	23 0	12 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	
34	Chittagong Hill Tracts ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 5	13 5	11 6	16 0	16 0	13 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	Hill Tipperah ... ..	...	8 0	8 0	7 0	...	...	14 0	14 0	10 0	22 0	22 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	
BEHAR.																										
35	Patna ... ..	...	16 0	16 0	12 0	25 0	25 0	19 0	13 8	13 8	10 8	18 0	16 0	17 8	...	...	...	...	...		
36	Gya	U 14 8	14 0	13 0	27 8	28 0	17 8	8 8	8 8	8 0	17 8	17 8	15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	
37	Shahabad	V 14 0	13 8	{ 12 0 to 13 0	21 0	24 0	{ 16 0 to 17 0	16 0	16 0	{ 12 8 to 13 0	18 0	17 0	{ 14 0 to 15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	
38	Durbhanga	W 11 0	11 0	13 0	22 0	16 0	21 0	10 0	12 0	11 8	18 0	16 0	14 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	
39	Muzafferpore	X 12 0	11 0	13 0	25 0	25 0	...	10 0	10 0	8 0	16 0	16 0	15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	
40	Saran ... ..	...	13 4	13 0	11 4	...	21 4	20 4	8 4	8 0	7 0	15 12	16 0	13 12	...	...	...	...	...		
41	Champarn	Y 14 0	14 0	11 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	8 0	18 0	8 0	14 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	
42	Monghyr	Z 13 10	13 10	11 8	16 12	16 12	19 15	12 9	12 9	9 7	16 12	16 12	12 9	...	...	...	...	...	...	
43	Bhagulpore	Z1 12 8	12 0	10 1	20 3	22 12	12 10	15 2	15 2	11 6	16 7	16 7	13 14	...	...	...	...	...	...	
44	Purneah	Z2 15 0	16 0	{ 10 0 to 11 0	20 0	20 0	...	18 0	18 0	{ 15 0 to 16 0	20 0	20 0	17 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	
45	Maldah	Z3 9 0	9 0	10 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	11 0	16 8	16 8	13 0	18 0	18 0	...	...	...	...			
46	Sonthal Pergunnahs ... ..	...	10 0	9 0	11 0	...	...	13 0	18 0	14 0	20 0	20 0	15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	
ORISSA.																										
47	Cuttack ... ..	...	11 13	11 13	14 1	...	...	14 7	11 13	13 12	19 11	17 1	18 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	
48	Pooree ... ..	...	10 8	10 8	10 8	...	...	10 8	10 8	8 8	18 6	18 6	15 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	
49	Balasore ... ..	...	10 8	10 10	9 0	...	...	12 8	11 0	13 0	16 0	18 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	
CHOTA NAGPORE.																										
South-Western Frontier Agency.																										
50	Hazareebagh	Z4 12 0	12 0	11 8	20 0	20 0	...	10 0	10 0	8 0	23 0	23 0	15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	
51	Lohardugga	Z5 10 0	10 0	8 0	...	...	...	20 0	20 0	13 0	25 0	25 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	
52	Singbhoom ... ..	...	7 8	7 8	7 0	20 0	16 0	20 0	12 0	12 0	10 0	28 0	28 0	24 0	...	...	...	...	...		
53	Nanbhoom	Z6 10 8	11 0	9 0	24 0	24 0	32 0	16 0	16 0	12 0	26 0	25 0	19 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	

* In the interior the price of common rice varies from 18½ to 21 seers per rupee.

† In the interior the prices range as follow:—Wheat 16 to 20 seers, and common rice 18 to 22 seers.

T In the interior the prices range as follow:—Best rice 18 to 21 seers, and common rice 18 to 22 seers.

U In the interior the prices range as follow:—Wheat 12 to 18 seers, barley (in Jehanabad) 25 seers, best rice (in Jehanabad) 17 seers, common rice 19½ to 20 seers, and gram 15 to 17 seers.

V In the interior the prices range as follow:—Wheat 14 to 14½ seers, barley 20 to 22 seers, best rice 10 to 18 seers, common rice 16½ to 19 seers, bulrush millet (in Buxar) 20 seers, great millet (in Buxar) 20 seers, lesser millets 20 seers, maize or Indian-corn 20 seers, and gram 15 seers.

W In the interior the prices range as follow:—Wheat 11 to 11½ seers, barley 20 to 25 seers, best rice 9 to 18 seers, common rice 16½ to 19 seers, murwa 19 to 25 seers, maize or Indian-corn 18 to 25 seers, and gram 18 to 17 seers.

X In the interior the prices range as follow:—Wheat 19 to 17 seers, barley 20 to 32 seers, best rice 9 to 24 seers, common rice 13½ to 25 seers, lesser millets 22½ to 30 seers, maize or Indian-corn 18 to 30 seers, and gram 15 to 20 seers.

Y In the interior the prices range as follow:—Wheat 18 to 19 seers, barley 28 to 30 seers, best rice 12 to 19 seers, common rice 17 to 28 seers, maize or Indian-corn 20 to 29 seers, and gram 15 to 20 seers.

mentioned Districts of Bengal for the Fortnight ending 29th February 1880.—(Contd.)

THE SEER OF 80 TOLAHS.

GRASS MILLET— CHOLU, JOWAR.			LESSER MILLETS— RAGI OR MURWA AND, CHENNA.			MAIZE OR INDIAN- CORN.			GRAM.			FIREWOOD.			SALT.			DISTRICTS.
Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	
Eastern Districts.—(Contd.)																		
S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	Chittagong.
...	9 0	9 0	8 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	Noakholly.
...	9 0	9 0	6 0	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	8 0	Tipperah.
...	11 8	10 8	8 8	...	...	...	8 12	8 12	8 12	Chittagong Hill Tracts.
...	320 0	320 0	320 0	8 0	8 0	6 10	Hill Tipperah.
...	8 0	8 0	7 5	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	8 8	BEHAR.
...	22 0	22 0	27 0	18 0	18 0	10 8	140 0	140 0	140 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	Patna.
...	28 0	27 0	...	22 0	21 0	20 8	17 8	17 0	10 0	140 0	140 0	180 0	9 0	9 0	9 0	Gya.
23 0	19 0	23 0	...	...	...	20 0	...	23 0	17 8	17 0	$\left\{ \begin{smallmatrix} 10 0 \\ \text{to} \\ 11 0 \end{smallmatrix} \right\}$	140 0	120 0	160 0	9 0	9 0	9 0	Shahabad.
...	20 0	19 0	22 0	18 0	20 0	27 0	13 8	13 8	7 8	100 0	110 0	120 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	Darbhanga.
...	19 0	20 0	27 0	19 0	19 0	10 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	9 0	9 0	8 8	Muzafferpore.
18 12	18 0	25 4	18 4	18 4	20 4	19 12	19 0	24 8	15 12	15 4	11 0	160 0	160 0	200 0	8 8	8 8	8 8	Sarun.
...	23 0	22 0	28 0	15 0	16 0	8 8	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	8 0	Chumpran.
...	16 12	17 13	21 0	10 12	14 11	10 8	120 0	147 0	147 0	8 6	8 6	8 6	Monghyr.
...	20 3	20 3	20 3	15 12	15 2	10 11	120 4	126 4	126 4	9 2	9 2	8 3	Bhagulpore.
...	$\left\{ \begin{smallmatrix} 13 0 \\ \text{to} \\ 16 0 \end{smallmatrix} \right\}$	13 0	8 0	120 0	120 0	160 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	Purneah.
...	11 0	11 0	8 0	120 0	120 0	100 0	8 8	8 8	8 8	Maldah.
...	26 0	25 0	24 0	13 0	13 0	5 4	200 0	200 0	200 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	Sonthal Pergha.
ORISSA.																		
...	18 6	10 8	10 8	...	...	...	17 1	15 12	16 6	160 0	160 0	200 0	11 0	11 0	12 0	Cuttack.
...	11 13	11 13	11 13	100 0	100 0	100 0	11 13	11 13	11 13	Pooree.
...	8 0	8 0	7 0	128 0	140 0	120 0	8 0	9 0	7 0	Balasore.
CHOTA NAGPORK.																		
South-Western Frontier Agency.																		
...	34 8	33 0	22 8	27 0	30 0	19 8	15 0	15 0	9 8	200 0	200 0	240 0	7 8	8 0	8 0	Hazareebagh.
...	32 0	38 0	24 0	28 8	28 0	20 0	10 0	10 0	8 0	160 0	160 0	180 0	8 0	8 0	7 0	Lohardugga.
...	12 0	12 0	9 0	180 0	180 0	240 0	8 0	7 8	6 8	Singbhoom.
32 0	32 0	...	64 0	64 0	61 0	32 0	32 0	26 0	15 0	11 0	9 0	180 0	120 0	130 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	Manbhoom.

- Z In the interior the prices range as follow :—Wheat 13½ to 15 seers, barley 20 to 22 seers, best rice 8½ to 14½ seers, common rice 15½ to 18 seers, jowar 18 to 24 seers, murwa 21 to 28 seers, maize or Indian-corn 18 to 26 seers, and gram 15 to 16½ seers.
- Z1 In the interior the prices range as follow :—Wheat 12½ to 17 seers, best rice 16 to 26 seers, common rice 18 to 23 seers, lesser millets 24 to 26 seers, and gram 12 seers.
- Z2 In the interior the prices range as follow :—Wheat 12 to 19 seers, barley 16 to 29 seers, best rice 16 to 22 seers, common rice 19 to 21 seers, and gram 8 to 16 seers.
- Z3 In the interior the prices range as follow :—Wheat 11 to 12½ seers, best rice 22½ to 23 seers, common rice 23 to 25 seers, maize or Indian-corn 22½ to 24 seers, and gram 12 to 12½ seers.
- Z4 In the interior the prices range as follow :—Wheat 12 to 13 seers, barley 20 to 32½ seers, best rice (in Chutira) 14 seers, common rice 31½ to 22 seers, lesser millets 32½ to 40 seers, maize or Indian-corn 27 to 30 seers, and gram 12 to 16 seers.
- Z5 In Lohardugga the prices are—Wheat 13 seers, best rice 23 seers, common rice 24 seers, murwa 50 seers, and gram 16 seers.
- Z6 In the interior the prices range as follow :—Wheat 8 to 10 seers, best rice 20 to 24 seers, common rice 23 to 25 seers, bulrush millet (in Jhalda) 16 seers, great millet (in Jhalda) 16 seers, lesser millets (in Jhalda) 34 seers, maize or Indian-corn 34 to 40 seers, and gram 8 to 12 seers.

Published for general information.

A. MACKENZIE,

WHOLESALE PRICES-CURRENT of Food-grains Firewood, and Salt in

Number.	MARKS.	PRICES PER MAUND														
		WHEAT.			BARLEY.			RICE, BEST SORT.			RICE, COMMON.			BOLURAH MILLST— CUMBOO, BAJRA.		
		Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.
		R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.
1	Calcutta ...	3 6 0	3 8 0	3 12 0	3 0 0	2 8 0	3 0 0	6 0 0	6 0 0	7 0 0	3 5 0	3 5 0	3 10 3	...	...	...
2	Seraingunge ...	2 8 0	3 0 0	3 11 0	...	...	...	4 8 0	4 8 0	5 8 0	2 4 0	2 4 0	3 8 0	...	...	...
3	Dacca ...	3 10 0	3 7 0	3 11 0	2 8 0	2 8 0	...	2 2 0	2 6 0	3 8 0	1 15 0	1 15 0	3 2 0	2 8 0	...	3 7 0
4	Narsingunge ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2 2 0	2 2 0	3 4 0	2 0 0	2 2 0	3 0 0	...	...	...
5	Chittagong ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2 14 0	2 14 0	3 8 0	2 4 0	2 4 0	2 12 0	...	...	...
6	Patna ...	2 8 0	2 8 0	3 5 3	1 9 6	1 9 6	2 1 0	2 15 6	2 15 6	3 12 6	2 3 6	2 8 0	2 4 9	...	...	...
7	Balasore ...	3 12 0	3 12 0	4 0 0	...	...	...	3 2 0	3 0 0	2 12 0	2 8 0	2 3 6	2 6 0	...	...	...
8	Poorce ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2 3 0	2 8 0	2 4 0	...	...	...
9	Cuttack ...	3 4 0	3 4 0	2 12 0	...	...	...	2 10 0	3 4 0	2 12 0	1 14 0	2 4 0	2 0 0	...	...	...

CALCUTTA,
The 9th March 1880.

the undermentioned *Marts* of Bengal for the Fortnight ending 29th February 1880.

OF 40 SEKRS.

GREAT MILLET— CHOLU, JOWAR.			LESSER MILLET— RAGI OR MURWA AND CHHENA.			MAIZE OR INDIAN. CORN.			GRAM.			PINEWOOD.			BALT.			MARTS.
Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	
R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	
2 4 0	2 4 0	2 4 0	...	...	...	2 10 0	2 10 0	2 0 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	3 14 0	0 6 30	0 30 90	4 0 0	4 0 0	4 8 0	Calcutta.
...	3 12 0	3 12 0	5 4 0	4 6 0	4 6 0	4 6 0	Serajgunge.
...	3 10 3	4 0 4	0 0 0	0 7 00	0 00 00	4 0 0	4 2 0	4 4 0	Dacca.	
...	3 30 3	3 0 4	2 0 0	0 8 00	0 8 00 10	4 3 0	4 3 0	4 3 0	Narangunge.	
...	Chittagong.	
...	1 13 0	1 13 0	1 6 0	2 3 0	3 12 0	0 4 0	4 9 0	4 9 5	0 0 5	0 0 5	0 0 0	Patna.	
...	5 0 0	5 0 0	5 0 0	0 5 00	5 6 0	5 4 6	0 0 4	0 0 0	Balasora.	
...	Pooree.	
...	3 0 0	3 10 0	3 10 0	...	...	...	2 4 0	2 5 0	2 1 0	0 4 0	0 4 0 0	3 0 3	0 3 0	3 3 0	Cuttack.	

Published for general information.

A. MACKENZIE,
Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

**Results of the Meteorological Observations taken at the Alipore Observatory from
29th February to 6th March 1880.**

Month.	Date.	Maximum in sun.	Mean pressure barometer at 32° Fah.	TEMPERATURE				HYGROMETRY.				WIND.		Rain	WEATHER.
				Mean.	Maximum.	Range.	Minimum.	Mean wet bulb.	Vapour tension.	Dew point.	Humidity.	Prevailing direction.	Miles recorded.		
1880.		°	Inches	°	°	°	°	°	Inches	°	%			Inches	
Feb.	29th	143.2	30.018	66.4	80.0	26.7	53.3	56.4	0.325	47.2	55	Till 9-15 A.M. N N W. till 10-15 A.M. N E by E, till midnight W through N and N W.	82	Nil	Clear, &c.
March	1st	140.0	29.98	66.5	81.0	28.7	52.3	57.1	0.343	48.0	56	Till 8 A.M. W, till midnight chiefly N N W.	104	"	Clear, &c.
"	2nd	143.1	29.991	68.7	83.7	27.8	55.9	59.2	0.382	51.4	58	Till 4 P.M. chiefly N N W, till midnight N W by W.	80	"	Clear, &c.
"	3rd	142.8	29.983	69.7	85.4	28.0	55.8	60.7	0.414	53.7	60	Till 1-45 A.M. N W by W, till 9 A.M. S W by W through W, till noon N W by N through W and N W, till 9 P.M. W S W through N W and W, till midnight S S W.	75	"	Clear, &c.
"	4th	145.0	29.984	71.0	86.8	28.3	58.5	61.2	0.413	53.0	59	Till 8 A.M. S S W, till 8 P.M. W by N through S W and W, till midnight S W by S through W and S W.	84	"	Chiefly clear, & sand &c.
"	5th	144.8	30.002	72.0	87.9	28.0	59.9	65.1	0.534	61.9	71	Till 4 P.M. S W by S, till midnight S by W.	119	"	Chiefly clear, & sand &c.
"	6th	146.0	30.007	72.0	86.8	20.5	66.3	65.8	0.543	61.3	67	Till 4 A.M. S W by W, till 8 A.M. N W by W through S W and W, till noon S W by S through W and S W, till midnight chiefly W by N.	72	"	Morning cloudy, rest chiefly clear, & f, and &c.

* Fell at 9 P.M. of the 20th.

The mean pressure of the seven days	...	...	Inches.
The average pressure of the corresponding period for 24 years, S. G. Office	...	...	30.002
			29.854

		°
The mean temperature of the seven days	...	69.5
The average temperature of the corresponding period for 24 years, S. G. Office	...	77.8
The extreme variation of temperature during the seven days	...	35.6
The maximum temperature during the seven days	...	87.9

		%
The mean relative humidity during the seven days	...	61
The average relative humidity of the corresponding period for 24 years, S. G. Office	...	68

		Inches.
The total fall of rain from 29th February to 6th March 1880	...	Nil.
The average fall of the corresponding period for 24 years, S. G. Office	...	0.65
The total fall from 1st January to 6th March 1880	...	2.96
The average fall of the corresponding period for 24 years, S. G. Office	...	2.05

The mean pressure, temperature, &c., are deduced from observations made at 6h, 10h, 16h and 22h, and from the traces of the barograph and thermograph.

The maximum and minimum temperatures are obtained from self-registering thermometers. All the thermometers are verified, and the readings have been corrected to a standard constructed and verified at the Kew Observatory. They are exposed under a thatched shed open at the sides, and are suspended four feet above the ground.

The barometer readings are corrected approximately to those of the standard Newman's No. 86, formerly at the Surveyor-General's Office.

The hygrometric elements are obtained from Tables III, IV, and V of the official tables computed in the Meteorological Office, and based on Regnault's modifications of August's formula.

The direction and movement of the wind are taken from the trace of a Beckley's anemograph.

The mouth of the rain-gauge is one foot above the ground.

w dew, f fog, o overcast.

METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE, INDIA,
The 8th March 1880.

JOHN ELIOT,
For Meteorological Reporter to the Government of India.

**Abstract of the results of Meteorological Observations taken at Alipore
Observatory in the month of February 1880.**

	Inches.	Date.	Hour.
The mean pressure of the month	29.947		
The average pressure of 24 years	29.945		
The highest pressure during the month	30.146	22nd	10h.
The lowest pressure during the month	29.743	18th	16h.
The range of pressure during the month	0.403		
○			
The mean temperature during the month	69.9		
The average temperature of 24 years	73.0		
The highest temperature during the month	86.3	27th	
The lowest temperature during the month	52.1	20th	
The range of temperature during the month	34.2		
The mean daily range of temperature during the month	19.5		
The greatest range of temperature in one day during the month	27.6	3rd	
%			
The mean humidity during the month	72		
The average humidity of 24 years	67		
Inches.			
The mean vapour tension during the month	0.520		
The average vapour tension of 9 years	0.538		
The mean cloud proportion of the month	3.06		
Inches.			
The total rainfall of the month	2.91		
The average fall of 48 years	0.87		
The greatest fall in 24 hours	1.69	17th	
Days.			
The number of rainy days in the month	6		
The average number of rainy days of 24 years	3		
○			
The mean maximum equilibrium temperature of solar radiation of the month	140.3		
The mean difference of sun and air temperatures	59.3		
The greatest sun temperature	148.9	15th	
The greatest excess of sun over air temperature	66.2	15th	
The mean temperature of nocturnal radiation thermometer on woollen cloth	53.9		
The mean depression of nocturnal radiation thermometer below the minimum of air	7.7		
The greatest depression of nocturnal radiation thermometer below the minimum of air	18.2	11th	
Miles.			
The mean movement of the wind per day	96.7		
The greatest movement of the wind in one day	180.0	18th	
The greatest movement of the wind in one hour	17.0	18th	1 to 2 p.m.
The number of hours under each of the 8 points—			

N 94, NE 86, E 36, SE 13, S 81, SW 143, W 97, NW 116, Calm 30.

The results of observations at the Alipore Observatory are not rigorously comparable with the registers of past years (at the Park Street Observatory). The barometer is about 3 feet higher at Alipore, and other things being equal, reads therefore .003 lower. The diurnal range of temperature is also greater at Alipore, and the mean temperature apparently about 2°·8 lower; and finally, the thermometer, which has furnished the record of temperature at the Surveyor-General's Office during the last 20 years and upwards, is found to read 0.6 higher than the Kew standard thermometer, which is the standard of reference at the present Observatory.

JOHN ELIOT,

For Meteorological Reporter to the Govt. of India.

METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE, INDIA, the 8th March 1880.

GOVERNMENT OF BENGAL.
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, IRRIGATION BRANCH.

IRRIGATION OPERATIONS FOR 1879-80.

Areas leased for Irrigation up to end of January 1880.

CIRCLE.	DISTRICT.	CANAL.	SUPPLY OF WATER IN THE CANAL.			KURRIE.			RURRI.			SUGARCANE.			GRAND TOTAL.			RAINFALL.			REMARKS.
			Returned full discharge in cubic feet per second.	Average discharge in cubic feet per second.	c. ft.	c. ft.	Returned full discharge in cubic feet per second.	Returned full discharge in cubic feet per second.	Returned full discharge in cubic feet per second.	Returned full discharge in cubic feet per second.	Returned full discharge in cubic feet per second.	Returned full discharge in cubic feet per second.	Returned full discharge in cubic feet per second.	Returned full discharge in cubic feet per second.	Returned full discharge in cubic feet per second.	Returned full discharge in cubic feet per second.	Returned full discharge in cubic feet per second.	Returned full discharge in cubic feet per second.	Returned full discharge in cubic feet per second.	Returned full discharge in cubic feet per second.	
Orissa	Cuttack	Kendrapara	1,200	234.43	55	1,170	40,260	Average of ten previous years of the same period.
		Patna	...	...	400	682	11,225	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Patna Level Sec.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Patna	675	169.60	...	942	15,960	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Patna	1,200	118.60	...	64	9,840	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bengal	Midnapore	Midnapore	Average of ten previous years of the same period.
		Howrah	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Howrah	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Howrah	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Howrah	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sone	Shahabad	Shahabad	Average of ten previous years of the same period.
		Shahabad	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Shahabad	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Shahabad	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Shahabad	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

The 8th March 1880.

D. B. HORN,
Asst. Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal,
P. W. Dept., Irrigation Branch.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, IRRIGATION BRANCH, BENGAL.

Statements showing the total amount of Traffic and Tolls on the Canals for the month of January 1880.

ORISSA CIRCLE.

Kendrapara Canal and its branch to Ghundukia on the Gobri River.

LENGTH OF CANAL OPEN—54 MILES.

Number of boats.	Nature of cargo.	APPROXIMATE		TONNAGE OF BOATS.		Ton mileage.	Tollage	Rate of toll per ton mile.
		Weight of cargo.	Value of cargo.	Mds.	Tons.			

LOCAL TRAFFIC.

(1) PRIVATE.

		Mds.	Rs.				Rs. A. P.	A. P.
1	Bennagrass	40	20	175	6	180	3 0 0	.....
1	Coriander	50	200	112	4	120	3 0 0	.....
14	Dry-fish	412	4,120	1,215	43	1,775	41 4 0	.....
1	Door	50	180	135	5	210	3 12 0	.....
165	Empty boats	.....	.....	17,263	616	20,506	432 5 0	.....
2	Grain	80	300	170	6	252	6 0 0	.....
1	Gunny-bags	100	800	195	7	294	5 4 0	.....
6	Hides	1,750	17,500	2,971	103	3,828	105 12 0	.....
10	Jaggery	1,020	5,100	2,312	85	986	35 0 0	.....
2	Jute	200	800	560	20	200	5 4 0	.....
1	Kharee	570	1,400	1,090	37	662	29 4 0	.....
1	Lime	200	50	310	11	440	9 0 0	.....
3	Miscellaneous	230	1,250	560	20	540	21 0 0	.....
37	Miscellaneous goods, &c., of Messrs. Bullock, Wellsted & Co.	.....	.....	25,882	924	5,408	791 15 2	.....
1	Oil	20	400	81	3	126	2 4 0	.....
1	Oil cake	200	250	328	13	540	10 8 0	.....
30	Paddy	4,040	8,080	7,280	260	10,000	238 8 0	.....
8	Passengers (8 in number)	.....	.....	566	26	800	21 1 1	.....
58	Rice	18,500	74,000	31,760	1,120	40,208	928 10 0	.....
20	Salt	3,452	17,260	5,507	204	6,628	120 4 0	.....
8	Sweepers	3,100	11,400	5,177	185	7,770	186 0 0	.....
8	Spices	2,120	25,000	2,658	95	3,000	103 0 0	.....
1	Straw	300	65	640	23	714	16 8 0	.....
1	Turneric	130	650	204	9	378	10 0 0	.....
1	Til	700	3,500	1,194	43	1,806	39 0 0	.....
1	Timber	270	900	635	22	493	6 12 0	.....
1	Zinc	200	2,000	500	18	720	20 0 0	.....
304	Total	37,784	1,74,875	1,09,207	3,900	148,270	3,196 3 3 ²	0 41
438	Total of same month last year	48,685	2,32,382	1,25,824	4,220	168,000	3,731 7 9	0 43
MISCELLANEOUS.								
2	Bamboos (18,350 in number)	.....	225	.....	.....	.....	49 5 0	.....
28	Passengers (625 in number)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	222 2 10	.....
...	Timbers (44 in number)	.....	176	.....	.....	.....	9 12 0	.....
34	Total	.....	401	.....	.....	.....	281 1 10	.....
34	Total of same month last year	.....	631	.....	.....	.....	329 11 4	.....

(2) STORES AND MATERIALS FOR IRRIGATION WORKS

1	Bamboo mats	100	200	181	6	232	5 0 0	.....
9	Firewood	2,700	270	4,401	160	6,720	173 0 0	.....
4	Laterite stone	900	15	2,141	75	900	20 8 0	.....
6	Trubble stone	2,000	30	3,131	112	1,344	40 8 0	.....
1	Tools	80	400	137	5	200	5 0 0	.....
31	Empty boats	.....	.....	3,375	121	2,532	58 12 0	.....
43	Total	5,780	916	13,129	479	11,958	304 12 0	0 40
57	Total of same month last year	9,212	2,993	19,175	685	10,714	398 8 0	0 40
MISCELLANEOUS.								
2	Bamboos (7,100 in number)	.....	100	.....	.....	.....	31 1 0	.....
11	Boats passed free†	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
13	Total	.....	100	.....	.....	.....	31 1 0	.....
45	Total of same month last year	.....	169	.....	.....	.....	38 8 0	.....

* In comparing with the corresponding month of last year, the private trade shows a decrease of Rs. 594, which is due to the falling off of traffic in items paddy, jaggery, sleeper, timbers, &c.

† A memorandum of free boats is attached.

Kendrapara Canal—continued.

Number of boats.	Nature of cargo	APPROXIMATE		TONNAGE OF BOATS.		Ton mileage	Tollage.	Rate of toll per ton mile.
		Weight of cargo.	Value of cargo.	Mds.	Tons.			
ABSTRACT.								
		Mds	Rs.				Rs. A. P.	A. P.
438	Private, including miscellaneous	57,784	1,76,276	1,00,207	3,900	144,970	3,477 8 1	.....
55	Government stores, including miscellaneous	5,780	1,015	13,426	479	11,958	286 13 0	.....
476	Grand total	43,564	1,76,291	1,23,633	4,379	156,927	3,833 2 1*	.....
579	Grand total of same month last year	57,797	2,36,388	1,40,029	5,215	184,804	4,408 3 1	.....

* Of this, Rs. 739-10-4 is the total collection of Gobri canal locks and Rs. 3,073-7-9 is the collection of Kendrapara canal locks.

MEMO.		Rs. A. P.	
Unrecovered balance on the 1st of the month	.....	3,007	7 10
Amount of tollage for the month	.....	3,813	2 1
	Total	6,820	9 11
Amount credited in the accounts for the month	.....	3,887	10 10
Balance at the end of the month	.....	2,932	15 1

MEMO OF FREE BOATS.				
Particulars.	No. of boats.	Maunds.	Tonnage.	Tollage realisable.
				Rs. A. P.
Boats passed for Government officers on duty	4	1,040	39	35 12 0
Boats conveying materials for Jamboe harbour works	3	547	20	15 12 0
Steamer, &c., of Messrs. Bullock, Wellsted & Co.	4	2,380	25	69 0 0
Total	11	4,016	143	120 9 0

High Level Canal, Range I.

LENGTH OF CANAL OPEN—37 MILES.

LOCAL TRAFFIC.

(1) PRIVATE.

5	Benn grass	700	180	1,268	45	1,560	36 12 0	.....
1	Cotton	100	1,000	185	7	291	3 8 0	.....
1	Chalk	50	200	163	6	197	4 6 0	.....
1	Charcoal	100	125	192	7	238	5 4 0	.....
3	Country potatoes	50	200	119	4	48	1 1 4	.....
40	Empty boats	.....	.....	4,200	161	5,478	93 12 6	.....
4	Gingelly	350	1,408	688	24	811	10 8 6	.....
2	Jaggery	100	500	201	7	84	2 0 0	.....
4	Paddy	489	1,920	853	30	103	23 18 6	.....
18	Passengers (139 in number)	.....	.....	5,652	291	6,742	108 8 3	.....
6	Rice	850	1,700	1,541	55	1,871	44 4 0	.....
13	Salt	2,000	10,200	5,734	133	919	104 8 0	.....
3	Salt-fish	85	800	144	5	110	9 4 0	.....
2	Straw	150	40	273	10	100	3 8 0	.....
2	Sal loes, &c.	500	800	427	15	465	12 0 9	.....
3	Sundries	200	500	423	15	465	11 4 0	.....
1	Tiles	150	10	294	11	263	9 6 0	.....
120	Total	5,715	18,625	20,325	796	18,903	551 14 6*	0 5 5
143	Total of same month last year	8,982	39,597	25,227	901	29,396	700 10 0	0 4 0
MISCELLANEOUS.								
	Bamboos (200 in number)	.....	5	.....	.....	.....	0 4 0	.....
	Total	.....	5	.....	.....	.....	0 4 0	.....
	Total of same month last year	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2 2 0	.....

(2) STORES AND MATERIALS FOR IRRIGATION WORKS.

1	Pine-wood	200	50	204	11	263	9 0 0	.....
2	Chin-see lime	400	100	694	23	759	6 4 0	.....
7	Lateral stone	2,000	40	6,910	175	175	49 0 0	.....
13	Rubber stone	3,500	65	6,455	231	231	64 4 0	.....
20	Empty boats	.....	.....	6,090	140	1,560	64 4 0	.....
43	Total	6,700	215	16,967	580	2,804	171 12 0	0 11 4
191	Total of same month last year	25,104	1,354	67,049	2,412	11,190	759 8 0	1 1 0
MISCELLANEOUS.								
1	Bamboos (1,000 in number)	.....	15	.....	.....	.....	1 4 0	.....
4	Boats passed free†	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
5	Total	.....	15	.....	.....	.....	1 4 0	.....
4	Total of same month last year	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

* In comparing with the corresponding month of last year the private trade shows a decrease of Rs. 151, which is due to the falling off of traffic in items paddy, rice, empties, &c.

† A memorandum of free boats is attached.

High Level Canal, Range I—continued.

Number of boats.	Nature of cargo.	APPROXIMATE		TONNAGE OF BOATS.		Ton mileage.	Tollage.	Rate of toll per ton mile.
		Weight of cargo.	Value of cargo.	Mds.	Tons.			

ABSTRACT.

		Mds.	Rs.				Rs.	A.	P.	A. P.
120	Private, including miscellaneous	5,715	19,620	20,325	726	19,303	552	2	6	
48	Government stores, including miscellaneous	6,700	228	16,387	580	2,804	173	0	0	
169	Grand total	12,415	19,858	36,712	1,312	22,107	725	2	6	
238	Grand total of same month last year	34,000	39,581	26,776	3,313	40,486	1,462	4	0	
	Deduct amount erroneously charged to Mr. Kriena, Assistant Engineer, during December 1878						6	0	0	
							1,456	4	0	

MEMO.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Unrecovered balance on the 1st of the month		729	0	6
Amount of tollage for the month		725	2	6
Amount credited in the accounts for the month	Total	1,454	2	0
Balance at the end of the month		900	6	3
		654	12	9

MEMO. OF FREE BOATS.

Particulars.	No. of boats	Maunds.	Tonnage.	Tollage remissible.
Boats passed for Government officers on duty	4	1,000	58	46 5 0

Taldunda Canal.

LENGTH OF CANAL OPEN—27 MILES.

LOCAL TRAFFIC.

(1) PRIVATE.

2	Paddy	911	1,300	1,383	46	297	0	6	6
1	Rice	107	405	644	23	44	3	3	6
1	Gram	107	305	643	23	44	3	3	6
1	Dry fish	176	200	178	6	176	1	12	6
8	Rubbie	1,829	601	3,231	115	808	16	2	7
8	Timbers	600	400	1,306	43	365	7	10	5
1	Bans grass	100	100	413	15	325	4	2	0
1	Charcoal	107	50	643	23	44	3	3	6
1	Fuel	237	50	724	27	85	5	13	10
36	Passengers			17,206	617	1,233	86	5	11
12	Empty			3,490	126	873	15	1	3
61	Total	4,244	2,811	29,774	1,063	4,270	154	1	6
76	Total of same month last year	8,506	3,923	29,751	1,060	7,701	159	6	6
	MISCELLANEOUS.								
	Timbers (48 in number)		250				15	0	0
	Bamboos (15,000 in number)		200				37	8	0
	Passengers (541 in number)						2	12	10
	Total		450				55	4	10
	Total of same month last year		220				24	13	11

(2) STORES AND MATERIALS FOR IRRIGATION WORKS.

34	Rubbie	14,807	680	22,033	920	6,484	129	11	2
14	Laterite blocks	6,457	217	10,680	381	2,220	53	6	7
10	Empty			15,251	545	3,076	70	5	0
100	Total	21,264	897	51,964	1,852	12,440	259	7	3
	Total of same month last year								

ABSTRACT.

61	Private, including miscellaneous	4,244	2,811	29,774	1,063	4,270	154	1	6
100	Government stores, including miscellaneous	21,364	897	51,964	1,852	12,440	259	7	3
161	Grand total	25,608	4,131	81,738	2,915	16,710	471	13	9
76	Grand total of same month last year	8,506	3,245	29,751	1,060	7,701	154	6	6

NOTE.

	Rs.	A.	P.
Unrecovered balance on the 1st of the month	73	7	3
Amount of tollage for the month	471	13	9
Amount credited in the accounts for the month	Total	544	5 0
Balance at the end of the month	460	7	3
	103	13	2

High Level Canal, Range II.

LENGTH OF CANAL OPEN—12½ MILES.

Number of boats.	Nature of cargo.	APPROXIMATE		TONNAGE OF BOATS.		Ton mileage.	Tollage.	Rate of toll per ton mile.
		Weight of cargo.	Value of cargo.	Mds.	Tons.			

LOCAL TRAFFIC.

(1) PRIVATE.

		Mds.	Rs.				Rs. A. P.	A. P.
1	Boerces	140	500	241	9	108	4 8 0	.....
10	Empty boats	.....	.....	1,433	51	818	26 8 0	.....
1	Gallnuts	150	130	246	0	108	5 0 0	.....
3	Jaggery	400	2,000	080	25	30	13 8 0	.....
4	Paddy	750	1,500	1,452	62	876	28 0 0	.....
4	Rice	670	2,380	1,303	46	686	25 0 0	.....
12	Passengers (80 in number)	.....	.....	3,074	110	1,362	50 15 3	.....
8	Salt	2,070	10,350	4,161	149	1,192	81 14 0	.....
45	Total	4,160	16,920	12,006	451	4,970	244 5 5	0 9 4
01	Total of same month last year	5,179	18,081	17,335	621	6,301	349 2 8	0 10 5
MISCELLANEOUS.								
...	Small dougahs (78 in number)	.....	1,270	.....	.....	.....	22 11 0	.....
4	Timbers (295 in number)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	43 8 0	.....
...	Total	.....	1,270	.....	.....	.....	78 0 0	.....
...	Total of same month last year	.....	164	.....	.....	.....	4 14 0	.....

* In comparing with the corresponding month of last year the private trade shows a decrease of Rs. 32, which is due to the falling off of traffic in items paddy, rice, empties.

(2) STORES AND MATERIALS FOR IRRIGATION WORKS.

2	Charcoal	250	373	522	10	228	10 0 0	.....
4	Empty boats	.....	.....	2,383	81	1,008	40 0 0	.....
4	Laterite stone	2,500	40	4,847	173	2,076	06 0 0	.....
10	Total	2,750	415	7,732	276	3,312	163 0 0	0 8 8
228	Total of same month last year	28,629	1,821	70,487	2,889	27,864	1,540 12 0	0 10 6
MISCELLANEOUS.								
...	Small dougahs (8 in number)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2 7 0	.....
...	Total	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2 7 0	.....
...	Total of same month last year	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

ABSTRACT.

49	Private, including miscellaneous	4,160	16,190	12,006	451	4,970	323 5 3	.....
10	Government stores, including miscellaneous	2,750	415	7,732	276	3,312	164 7 0	.....
59	Grand total	6,910	16,605	20,338	727	8,282	476 12 3	.....
319	Grand total of same month last year	34,008	20,003	96,822	3,460	34,255	1,894 12 8	.....
...	Deduct amount erroneously charged against Assistant Engineer Mr. Kriens during December 1878	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4 0 0	.....
...		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,890 12 8	.....

MEMO.						Rs. A. P.
Unrecovered balance on the 1st of the month	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	967 13 6
Amount of tollage for the month	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	470 12 8
Amount credited in the accounts for the month	.....	.....	.....	Total	.....	1,384 9 9
Balance at the end of the month	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	921 10 0
	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	453 15 9

High Level Canal, Range III.

LENGTH OF CANAL OPEN—6½ MILES.

LOCAL TRAFFIC.

(1) PRIVATE.

8	Empty boats	.....	.....	281	10	126	5 0 0	.....
2	Jaggery	200	1,600	574	21	240	11 0 0	.....
2	Paddy	160	320	200	11	28	8 8 0	.....
12	Passengers (40 in number)	.....	.....	3,676	131	1,064	70 6 10	.....
1	Salt	250	1,300	507	18	222	10 0 0	.....
20	Total	710	3,070	5,340	191	1,760	101 14 10	0 11 3
17	Total of same month last year	203	865	2,085	74	1,073	37 12 0	0 6 8

† In comparing with the corresponding month of last year the private trade shows an increase of Rs. 64, which is due to the increase of traffic in items jaggery, passengers and salt, &c.

High Level Canal, Range III—continued.

Number of boats.	Nature of cargo.	APPROXIMATE		TONNAGE OF BOATS		Ton mileage.	Tollage	Rate of toll per ton mile.
		Weight of cargo.	Value of cargo.	Mds.	Tons.			
(2) STORES AND MATERIALS FOR IRRIGATION WORKS.								
	Nil.	Mds. Nil	Rs. Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Rs. A. P. Nil	A. P. Nil
10	Total of same month last year	920	16	3,002	108	496	58 0 0	1 10 5
ABSTRACT.								
20	Private, including miscellaneous	710	3,070	5,340	191	1,750	101 14 10	.....
...	Government stores, including miscellaneous	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
20	Grand total	710	3,070	5,340	191	1,750	101 14 10	.....
27	Grand total of same month last year	1,215	881	5,187	183	1,560	95 12 9	.....
MEMO.								
Unrecovered balance on the 1st of the month						Rs. A. P.	173 12 6	.....
Amount of tollage for the month						.....	101 14 10	.....
Amount credited in the accounts for the month						Total	275 11 4	.....
							104 2 6	.....
Balance at the end of the month						.....	107 8 10	.....

SOUTH-WESTERN CIRCLE.

Midnapore Canal.

LENGTH OF CANAL OPEN—53 MILES.

LOCAL TRAFFIC.

(1) PRIVATE.

34	Betel leaves	1,038	9,570	5,065	20 14 0	0	
2	Betel-nuts	80	800	500	4 6 0		
2	Bricks and tiles (2,000 in number)	200	70	805	7 3 6		
35	Brass and copper and their manufactures	5,443	1,26,450	10,165	91 4 6		
30	Coal and coke	19,829	6,509	21,396	243 13 6		
5	Cotton, raw	500	11,060	1,325	17 1 0		
23	Cocoanuts (92,000 in number)	1,555	3,155	6,450	68 13 3		
1	Cattle, No. 1	5	20	50	0 7 0		
64	Cotton, twist and yarn (European)	8,150	2,60,840	21,195	211 1 8		
5	Do. piece-goods (European)	600	63,300	1,400	18 3 6		
11	Do. ditto (Indian)	81	8,100	1,450	11 12 3		
30	Curd	875	2,433	5,700	47 15 0		
970	Empty boats			76,985	630 5 0		
29	Earthenware	2,102	572	5,740	27 0 6		
5	Firewood	249	70	775	3 8 6		
25	Fruits and nuts of all kinds	5,585	6,745	11,025	150 3 6		
98	Grain and pulse	9,650	35,280	24,500	239 15 9		
10	Goats and sheep (617 in number)	124	1,200	940	9 2 0		
1	Glassware	20	200	80	2 6 3		
1	Ghee	49	1,400	225	1 15 6		
5	Gunny-cloths (610 pieces)	320	1,450	950	3 6 0		
1	Gunny bags (200 in number)	25	50	125	2 10 6		
5	Horns	870	3,700	1,325	11 9 6		
15	Hides of cattle, unfanned (31,000 in number)	1,845	30,290	4,155	69 11 9		
2	Iron and its manufactures	300	1,500	800	12 0 0		
5	Indigo	730	1,88,000	1,900	67 0 0		
11	Indigo seed	2,380	22,500	4,875	138 0 0		
19	Jute, raw	2,750	19,820	5,920	67 9 6		
2	Lime and lime-stone	175	68	500	2 5 6		
5	Liquor	65	8,300	330	11 11 0		
1	Linseed	200	600	350	7 7 0		
25	Mustard	5,421	19,304	12,880	81 3 6		
95	Miscellaneous	4,213	1,130	17,040	167 0 0		
5	Oil	1,200	10,760	8,415	53 14 6		
2	Other oilseeds	1,150	8,000	2,655	33 3 6		
1	Other fibres, raw	140	700	350	3 1 0		
10	Oil-cake	1,200	1,900	3,325	31 3 3		
1,451	Passenger boats			91,745	1,021 14 0		
241	Paddy	31,715	49,195	69,745	978 7 0		
165	Rice	25,388	67,380	52,080	585 13 3		
8	Silk, raw	144	63,840	1,280	11 3 3		
94	Salt	26,807	1,00,160	22,800	591 13 9		
43	Straw (931 kahuns)	9,004	2,470	29,755	89 2 0		
31	Sand	4,120	571	7,325	29 0 0		
3	Soundry piles (130 in number)	90	185	350	1 13 0		
5	Stone-plates	1,400	5,494	2,225	30 11 0		
27	Sugar, unrefined	1,723	6,114	4,830	64 9 9		
5	Spices	150	1,060	500	4 6 0		
27	Sai piles (777 in number)	1,537	2,363	1,455	30 3 6		
30	Timbers (100 in number)	2,041	3,950	2,570	69 10 0		
43	Tobacco	6,025	58,008	14,005	170 11 6		
13	Til	5,025	4,825	5,500	76 14 0		
60	Vegetable and other kinds of provision	2,545	5,361	8,105	66 15 9		
11	Wheat	623	3,360	2,305	32 10 6		
3,651	Total	1,86,450	12,56,865	5,86,915	20,925	408,633	6,436 4 6 0 3
4,100	Total of same month last year	2,25,105	13,19,303	5,08,280	21,507	305,708	6,232 7 6 0 3
MISCELLANEOUS.							
...	Passengers (14,704 in number)	...	...	...	...	...	285 3 8
...	Demurrage, &c.	...	...	...	...	...	23 0 4
23	Boats passed free	...	...	...	...	...	...
23	Total	...	...	...	...	...	316 3 0
15	Total of same month last year	...	...	...	...	...	192 10 0

Midnapore Canal—continued.

(2) STORES AND MATERIALS FOR IRRIGATION WORKS.

Number of boats.	Nature of cargo.	APPROXIMATE		TONNAGE OF BOATS.		Ton tollage.	Tollage.	Rate of toll per ton mile.
		Weight of cargo.	Value of cargo.	Mds.	Tons.			
13	Coal	Mds. 6,100	Rs. 1,911	10,375	.....	.....	Rs. A. P. 142 2 0	.....
6	Empty boats	.....	.....	1,075	.....	.....	32 1 0	.....
19	Total	6,100	1,911	12,050	430	11,360	174 3 0	.....
75	Total of same month last year	21,590	3,000	42,470	1,617	26,455	375 6 0	.....

ABSTRACT.

3,874	Private, including miscellaneous	1,86,436	12,26,863	5,85,915	20,925	400,683	0,782 7 6	.....
18	Government stores, including miscellaneous	6,100	1,911	12,050	430	11,360	174 3 0	.....
3,892	Grand total	1,92,536	12,28,776	5,97,965	21,355	421,043	0,956 10 6	.....
4,199	Grand total of same month last year	2,46,785	13,23,112	6,40,750	22,834	420,163	0,800 8 0	.....

* This includes tolls on the Narainpur Channel amounting to Rs. 92-15-6.

Note.		Rs. A. P.
Unrecovered balance on the 1st of the month	.....	632 7 8
Amount of tollage for the month	.....	0,926 10 0
Total	.....	7,559 1 9
Amount credited in the accounts for the month	.....	6,462 0 0
Balance at the end of the month	.....	1,096 11 8

Hidgellie Tidal Canal.

LENGTH OF CANAL OPEN—29 MILES.

LOCAL TRAFFIC.

(1) PRIVATE.

6	Coal	1,660	1,000	3,025	.....	.....	20 13 9	.....
6	Cocunut (14,200 in number)	140	612	1,070	.....	.....	7 5 3	.....
226	Empty boat	.....	.....	15,283	.....	.....	152 2 0	.....
2	Barthenware (2,000 in number)	30	50	400	.....	.....	2 12 0	.....
1	Pin-wood	10	3	75	.....	.....	0 8 3	.....
1	Ghooting	30	3	75	.....	.....	0 8 3	.....
1	Ghoran-wood	20	5	125	.....	.....	1 0 6	.....
3	Hemp	100	508	275	.....	.....	3 9 3	.....
1	Hental-wood	125	53	325	.....	.....	3 10 3	.....
7	Jute	103	575	430	.....	.....	5 2 2	.....
3	Mustard	37	103	43	.....	.....	3 10 9	.....
43	Miscellaneous	1,633	8,729	4,855	.....	.....	51 0 0	.....
1	Oil-cake	14	12	100	.....	.....	0 11 0	.....
106	Paddy	8,402	10,814	18,830	.....	.....	210 13 9	.....
18	Passenger-boat	.....	.....	8 25	.....	.....	8 6 0	.....
96	Rice	10,225	26,135	12,500	.....	.....	169 5 0	.....
21	Straw (212 kahans)	2,715	730	0,600	.....	.....	59 14 6	.....
13	Sand	1,855	77	4,755	.....	.....	30 1 8	.....
10	Salt	2,250	8,075	3,450	.....	.....	32 14 3	.....
12	Timber	200	600	250	.....	.....	2 4 0	.....
1	Tobacco	150	740	500	.....	.....	5 7 0	.....
570	Total	20,821	60,691	82,345	2,941	43,605	791 13 9	0 33
1,893	Total of same month last year	1,06,674	2,37,740	2,76,810	9,880	1,63,235	2,856 2 6	0 33
MISCELLANEOUS.								
.....	Passengers (62 in number)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1 15 6	.....
.....	4 rafts of timber (111 in number)	173	291	.....	.....	.....	20 4 0	.....
.....	3 .. of bamboos (309 in number)	35	43	.....	.....	.....	0 12 0	.....
.....	Demurrage, &c.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	9 1 3	.....
.....	Total	208	334	.....	.....	.....	32 1 8	.....
.....	Total of same month last year	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	34 11 3	.....

(2) STORES AND MATERIALS FOR IRRIGATION WORKS.

NIL	NIL.	NIL.	NIL.	NIL.	NIL.	NIL.	NIL.
Total	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total of same month last year	900	48	1,715	61	674	11 13 3	.....

ABSTRACT

570	Private, including miscellaneous	80,029	61,025	82,345	2,941	43,605	791 15 0	.....
570	Government stores, including miscellaneous	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
570	Grand total	80,029	61,025	82,345	2,941	43,605	791 15 0	.....
1,290	Grand total of same month last year	1,07,574	2,07,784	2,78,525	9,947	1,63,950	2,008 10 0	.....

MEMO.		Rs. A. P.
Unrecovered balance on the 1st of the month	.....	124 10 9
Amount of tollage for the month	.....	791 15 0
Total	.....	920 9 9
Amount credited in the accounts of the month	.....	920 4 9
Balance at the end of the month	.....	0 5 0

Canal closed on 14th January 1880, for silt clearance.

SONE CIRCLE.

Arrah Canal.

LENGTH OF CANAL OPEN—65 MILES.

Number of boats.	Nature of cargo.	APPROXIMATE		TONNAGE OF BOATS.		Ton mileage.	Tollage.	Rate of toll per ton mile.
		Weight of cargo.	Value of cargo.	Mds.	Tons.			

LOCAL TRAFFIC.

(1) PRIVATE.

		Mds.	Rs.				Rs. A. P.	A. P.
29	Rice	7,206	19,237	10,125	363	17,024	175 1 0	.....
1	Wheat	275	825	360	12	492	5 7 4	.....
23	Salt	6,044	31,848	10,160	362	10,402	102 13 3	.....
65	Other articles of food	10,258	25,845	16,826	600	20,678	229 17 0	.....
1	Linseed	515	2,060	634	20	902	9 6 0	.....
23	Til	7,959	29,243	9,359	330	15,486	166 6 3	.....
1	Lime	325	1,300	453	16	912	9 13 6	.....
37	Straw	3,500	7,180	6,013	237	4,314	47 7 0	.....
13	Leather	2,102	8,408	3,313	119	6,151	67 9 3	.....
1	Tobacco	300	3,000	422	14	1,120	9 4 8	.....
1	Silk worm eggs	100	4,000	144	5	265	2 11 9	.....
9	Piece-goods	800	3,200	1,462	51	3,892	51 4 8	.....
1	Iron	50	100	170	6	348	3 13 3	.....
1	Stones	5.5	86	675	24	944	5 4 6	.....
16	Passengers			1,951	37	1,060	14 8 0	.....
105	Empty			11,058	416	10,069	61 8 8	.....
244	Total	40,128	1,34,071	73,372	2,613	103,204	1,078 15 3	0 1
117	Total of same month last year	15,376	1,17,432	26,270	895	37,034	417 7 6	0 3
MISCELLANEOUS.								
...	17 rafts of bamboos and bullahs (112.42 in number).						53 11 3	.....
...	Total						53 11 3	.....
...	Total of same month last year		200				27 6 8	.....

(2) STORES AND MATERIALS FOR IRRIGATION WORKS.

1	Furniture	125	4,120	167	6	120	1 6 9	.....
2	Coal	700	350	1,027	20	2,088	11 3 6	.....
1	Flower plants	4	20	12			0 1 3	.....
24	Stones	9,452	1,476	12,450	443	9,691	57 12 3	.....
4	Clay	950	1,090	1,465	50	2,820	36 1 6	.....
2	Passengers			108	3	42	0 12 9	.....
2	Empty			142	5	55	0 9 0	.....
40	Total	11,231	7,050	15,311	543	14,717	107 15 0	0 1
179	Total of same month last year	63,800	12,206	67,141	2,392	11,805	257 15 0	0 4
MISCELLANEOUS.								
...	One raft of timbers (44 in number)						24 12 0	.....
...	Total						24 12 0	.....
...	Total of same month last year		4,000				22 8 0	.....

ABSTRACT.

244	Private, including miscellaneous	40,128	1,34,071	73,372	2,613	103,204	1,078 15 3	.....
40	Government stores, including miscellaneous	11,231	7,050	15,311	543	14,717	107 15 0	.....
290	Grand total	51,359	1,41,127	88,683	3,156	117,925	1,211 10 3	.....
296	Grand total of same month last year	79,241	1,53,838	92,420	3,288	49,739	755 5 0	.....

NOTE.

		Rs. A. P.
Unrecovered balance on the 1st of the month	.....	285 5 8
Amount of tollage for the month	.....	1,211 10 3
Amount credited in the accounts for the month	.....	1,474 13 8
Balance at the end of the month	.....	1,034 6 9
	Total	440 8 11

Western Main Canal.

LENGTH OF CANAL OPEN—22 MILES.

LOCAL TRAFFIC.

(1) PRIVATE.

9	Rice	3,300	6,600	4,575	103	4,238	65 13 3	.....
1	Wheat	200	600	359	12	312	5 0 6	.....
1	Jaggery	150	450	275	10	280	3 15 3	.....
1	Ghee	200	4,000	300	11	280	4 5 0	.....
2	Zeerah	600	12,000	900	33	633	13 16 0	.....
9	Teel	3,900	15,600	5,125	183	4,768	75 10 9	.....
1	Linseed	800	2,000	625	23	575	5 15 9	.....
1	Stone	500	25	675	34	684	4 13 6	.....
1	Cattle skins	200	800	900	11	390	6 5 0	.....
1	Wooden boxes	50	55	75	2	25	0 9 9	.....
2	Empty boats			125	4	69	0 13 0	.....
20	Total	9,600	45,131	15,325	474	12,504	185 5 9	0 28
25	Total of same month last year	10,025	53,300	13,830	493	12,730	194 8 3	0 29

Western Main Canal—continued.

Number of boats.	Nature of cargo.	APPROXIMATE		TONNAGE OF BOATS.		Ton mileage.	Tollage.	Rate of toll per ton mile.
		Weight of cargo.	Value of cargo.	Mds.	Tons.			

(2) STORES AND MATERIALS FOR IRRIGATION WORKS.

		Mds.	Rs.				Rs. A. P.	A. P.
2	Kodala	400	114	875	30	280	4 10 9	
8	Empty boats			960	30	400	3 15 3	
10	Total	400	114	1,835	60	740	8 5 0	0 23
21	Total of same month last year	275	30	1,175	45	575	5 10 9	0 29

ABSTRACT.

20	Private, including miscellaneous	9,400	43,131	13,325	474	12,204	184 2 9	
10	Government stores, including miscellaneous	400	114	1,525	30	740	8 5 0	
30	Grand total	10,000	44,245	14,850	504	13,000	193 11 9	
50	Grand total of same month last year	10,300	53,330	15,025	530	13,100	200 3 0	

MEMO.

		Rs. A. P.
Unrecovered balance on the 1st of the month		154 12 0
Amount of tollage for the month		100 11 9
	Total	348 7 9
Amount credited in the accounts for the month		152 5 3
Balance at the end of the month		196 2 6

Patna Canal.

LENGTH OF CANAL OPEN—86½ MILES.

LOCAL TRAFFIC.

(1) PRIVATE.

10	Rice	1,050	2,400	1,724	61	2,240	27 5 0	
2	Pulses	250	540	400	17	370	5 5 6	
12	Other feed	1,001	4,194	1,643	33	2,358	26 15 0	
6	Salt	847	3,115	1,473	52	1,440	17 10 8	
9	Til	970	7,235	1,780	63	1,170	15 1 0	
1	Other seed	100	350	144	2	140	1 10 9	
1	Clothing	72	3,000	183	6	378	3 12 3	
1	Staples of manufacture	150	1,500	215	9	309	3 12 3	
4	Fuel	500	175	978	34	505	4 3 0	
10	Cardam	800	500	1,430	51	1,100	10 5 9	
34	Miscellaneous	1,792	14,263	3,904	150	3,000	41 10 9	
43	Empty boats			3,154	104	2,247	13 15 9	
121	Total	7,522	37,975	17,240	628	15,880	176 8 3	0 31
312	Total of same month last year	27,047	80,708	70,119	2,443	108,924	1,500 10 30	0 17
MISCELLANEOUS.								
	Bamboos and buliahs (143,024 number)		1,741				37 15 0	
	Passengers (2410 number)						3 12 6	
	Total		1,741				41 11 6	
	Total of same month last year		4,572				179 3 11	

(2) STORES AND MATERIALS FOR IRRIGATION WORKS.

20	Bricks	2,500	75	4,092	167	1,423	17 11 9	
1	Lime	60	7	120	4	110	2 0 0	
4	Naorkee	250	30	816	19	593	8 15 0	
2	Other building materials	10	60	255	7	207	5 2 6	
4	Coal	315	161	403	16	387	3 8 9	
3	Small stores			235	8	235	3 0 9	
2	Miscellaneous	30	200	94	3	121	1 5 9	
32	Empty boats			2,145	79	1,015	8 10 8	
75	Total	2,905	304	8,821	283	4,020	44 5 0	0 20
139	Total of same month last year	15,330	1,091	33,305	1,167	37,554	371 15 8	0 17
MISCELLANEOUS.								
	Total							
13	Total of same month last year							

Patna Canal—continued.

Number of boats.	Nature of cargo.	APPROXIMATE		TONNAGE OF BOATS.		Ton mileage.	Tollage.	Rate of toll per ton. mile
		Weight of cargo.	Value of cargo.	Mds.	Tons.			
ABSTRACT								
131	Private, including miscellaneous	Mds. 7,582	Rs. 39,632	17,220	624	15,960	Rs. A. P. 214 3 5	A. P. 11 10
73	Government stores, including miscellaneous	2,860	8,584	8,521	303	4,959	44 5 0	11 10
194	Grand total	10,442	39,620	25,741	927	19,919	259 8 9	11 10
461	Grand total of same month last year	42,386	95,365	100,484	3,430	295,478	1,952 14 8	11 10

The closure of a lock for repairs has led to this reduction.

MEMO.

Unrecovered balance on the 1st of the month	...	Rs. A. P. 259 8 9
Amount of tollage for the month	...	259 8 9
Amount credited in the accounts for the month	...	591 13 6
Balance at the end of the month	...	591 13 6
	Total	591 13 6
		591 13 6

ABSTRACT.

CANALS	TOLLAGE OF THE YEAR 1879-80.		TOLLAGE OF THE YEAR 1878-79.		REMARKS.
	During the month.	To end of month.	During the corresponding month.	To end of cor- responding month.	
ORISSA CIRCLE.					
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
Kandrapara	3,513 2 1	27,064 0 9	4,493 3 1	26,502 2 7	
High Level, Range I	725 3 8	7,054 12 9	1,456 4 0	8,888 0 8	
Taldunda	471 13 9	2,235 9 2	184 4 5	1,318 3 1	
High Level, Range II	476 12 3	9,789 3 0	1,890 12 8	8,281 11 7	
Ditto, do. III	101 14 10	1,161 11 8	95 12 9	571 14 10	
Total Orissa Circle	5,686 11 6	47,321 4 9	6,125 4 11	40,502 0 9	
SOUTH-WESTERN CIRCLE.					
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
Midnapore	6,925 10 4	81,086 1 6	6,860 2 6	65,310 1 2	
Hidgellee Tidal	791 13 0	44,527 12 3	2,902 10 0	46,393 13 6	
Total South-Western Circle	7,715 9 6	1,25,613 13 9	9,762 2 6	1,11,703 14 8	
SONS CIRCLE.					
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
Arrah	1,211 10 3	9,708 1 7	755 5 0	8,081 11 3	
Western Main	11 0	1,198 2 9	380 3 0	1,003 7 9	
Patna	4 9	10,973 0 10	1,952 14 3	14,539 7 8	
Total Sons Circle	1,067 14 9	21,679 11 9	2,988 0 3	23,621 10 9	
GRAND TOTAL	14,975 5 8	1,95,234 13 8	20,736 13 2	1,76,233 10 1	

H. C. LEVINGE,

Joint-Secy. to the Government of Bengal,
P. W. Dept., Irrigation Branch.

The 3rd March 1880.

Report of Fluctuation of Traffic on the Patna and Gya State Railway for the month of January 1880.

The approximate quantity of goods carried during the month of January 1880 aggregated maunds 1,42,955 as compared with maunds 1,24,781 carried during the previous month, showing the very satisfactory increase of maunds 18,174.

PATNA AND GYA STATE RAILWAY.

TRAFFIC DEPARTMENT.

Statement showing Maundage of Staples carried over the Line during the month of January 1880.

STAPLES.	1879.		1880.		1879.	1880.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Up.	Down.	Up.	Down.	Total.	Total.		
Coal	6,227	550	.....	6,797	.....	.....
Food-grain	3,827	44,164	.....	47,991	.....	.....
Hides and horns	15	2,883	.....	2,898	.....	.....
Indigo
Iron	40	554	.....	594	.....	.....
Opium
Place-goods	2,285	15	.....	2,300	.....	.....
Railway material	1,051	568	.....	1,619	.....	.....
Seeds, Indigo	131	10,190	.....	10,321	.....	.....
Seeds, oil	217	.....	217	.....	.....
Salt	792	.....	792	.....	.....
Saltpetre	10,445	3,020	.....	13,465	.....	.....
Salt	16	.....	.....	16	.....	.....
Stones, ballast	815	20,661	.....	20,966	.....	.....
Sugar	2,541	826	.....	3,367	.....	.....
Tobacco	17,073	15,968	.....	31,361	.....	.....
Miscellaneous goods
Total	42,239	97,712	.....	1,42,955	.....	.....

SOMASIPORA, the 20th February 1880.

A. W. FORA, Asst. Traffic Supt.

Report of Fluctuation of Traffic on the Tirhoot State Railway for the month of January 1880.

The total quantity of goods carried during the month of January 1880 aggregated maunds 2,03,446 as compared with maunds 2,00,026 carried during the corresponding period of 1879, and maunds 2,02,172 carried during the previous month, showing an increase of maunds 3,420 in the one case and of maunds 1,974 in the other.

Increases.

Coal	Mds.	1,993
This staple has been imported chiefly by private merchants for brick-burning purposes.		
Hides and horns	Mds.	1,020
The continued increase in this staple of traffic is due to the demand for shipments to foreign markets.		
Iron	Mds.	30
The import in this staple varies according to local requirements.		
Piece-goods	Mds.	3,166
The continued increase in this staple is very satisfactory. It chiefly consists of import traffic from Howrah for Darbhanga and Mozufferpore for use in the interior of the district.		
Salt	Mds.	27,732
This increase is very satisfactory, and due to the rivers being unnavigable.		
Miscellaneous goods	Mds.	357
Although this increase is very small, the business done in this particular staple is not unsatisfactory.		

Decreases.

Food-grain	Mds.	12,220
The market for these staples is at a standstill owing to the abundant harvest throughout the country, and prices being either stationary all round or in some cases lower than in the local markets.		
Indigo	Mds.	2,187
On account of very heavy and unexpected rain-fall and floods the outturn of indigo in last season was very poor.		
Railway material	Mds.	1,896
Depends upon railway work under construction.		
Seeds, indigo	Mds.	5,977
The import of indigo seeds into the district is late in this year, and the business done in the last month is lower than in the corresponding period last year.		
Seeds, oil	Mds.	223
This decrease is very small, and due to the new harvest which is expected to be very satisfactory.		
Saltpetre	Mds.	4,526
This is due to the small quantity manufactured in the district on account of scarcity of labour, which has been absorbed by the abundant winter harvest.		
Sugar	Mds.	1,511
This is due to the failure of the sugarcane crops in the district owing to the heavy flood.		
Tobacco	Mds.	2,848
The despatches of tobacco during the month were very few on account of fall of prices on the outside markets.		

TIRHOOT STATE RAILWAY.

TRAFFIC DEPARTMENT.

Statement showing Increases and Decreases in Maundage of Staples carried over the Line during the month of January 1880 as compared with the corresponding period of 1879.

STAPLES.	1879.		1880.		1879.	1880.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Up.	Down.	Up.	Down.	Total.	Total.		
Coal	13,793	500	11,443	4,833	14,283	16,276	1,993	
Food-grain	6,901	80,031	11,145	33,407	56,832	64,612		12,220
Hides and horns		10,961	892	11,160	10,961	11,981	1,020	
Indigo		5,274	177	2,910	5,274	8,087		2,187
Iron	1,040	478	1,099	455	1,634	1,654	30	
Piece-goods	12,200	33	11,193	4,204	12,233	15,399	3,166	
Railway material	176	2,987	1,635	602	3,023	2,237		1,396
Seeds, indigo	12,779	55	5,484	1,373	12,834	6,857		5,977
Seeds, oil	64	30,344	607	19,548	20,408	20,186		223
Salt	12,219	106	30,247	9,810	12,325	60,057	27,732	
Saltpetre	68	15,117	2,386	11,273	18,185	13,659		4,526
Sugar	25	1,917	380	81	1,942	431		1,511
Tobacco		6,029	224	2,933	6,029	8,181		2,848
Miscellaneous goods	10,808	12,075	13,722	10,205	23,573	23,830	257	
	70,661	1,29,364	80,500	1,12,886	2,00,028	2,03,446	3,418	30,978
						2,00,026	80,978	
Increase						3,420	3,420	

A. W. POPE, Asst. Traffic Supdt., Tirhoot State Railway.

Reports of Fluctuation of Traffic on the Eastern Bengal Railway for the five weeks ending the 23rd February 1880.

Report on Goods Traffic for the five weeks ending the 31st January 1880.

EASTERN BENGAL RAILWAY COMPANY, TRAFFIC SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE, SEALDAH TERMINUS.

Dated Calcutta, the 23rd February 1880.

From—The Traffic Superintendent, Eastern Bengal Railway,
To—The Agent, Eastern Bengal Railway, Sealdah.

The total maundage of goods which passed over this line during the above period was 8,09,755 maunds, which, as compared with the corresponding period of last year, shows an increase of 3,77,690 maunds, which is chiefly in grain, including rice, loose jute, piece-goods, railway material, salt, and miscellaneous goods.

There was a slight decrease of traffic in bales of gunnies and seeds as compared with last year.

Increases.

Grain, including rice ... Mds. 27,924
This increase may be attributed to the abundant harvest of 1879, the produce of which is now beginning to reach the markets, and which, from all I can learn, will continue to increase during the season in which this traffic is carried.

Jute in drums ... Mds. 2,18,898
This increase is attributable to the improved demand for this commodity in Calcutta caused by the enhanced rates now being offered to sellers, to enable shippers and mill-owners to meet their requirements, and if such rates continue, will draw the whole of the remaining stock still in the districts to the railway for transport.

Piece-goods, European ... Mds. 10,845
This is attributable in a measure to the facilities now afforded by the improvement in the service, received by the various districts touched by the Northern Bengal State Railway, showing that the traders are now availing themselves of the quick and more safe carriage of their goods by the railway than that which was formerly available to them. This is an item of traffic which I consider will greatly increase, as the advantages of railway transit become more generally known in the newly opened out country through which the Northern Bengal State Railway runs, thus diverting the traffic from the inland river steamers from Calcutta.

Railway material, foreign ... Mds. 9,853
This increase is owing to plant and material being sent forward over our line for the Northern Bengal State Railway and the Darjeeling steam tramway.

Salt ... Mds. 40,674
The increase in this traffic is also in a great measure attributable to facilities we can now afford to merchants in getting their salt loaded on the Port Commissioners' tramway; but to develop this traffic more, some arrangement should be made by the Board of Revenue to check the quantities at the point of loading, as owing to the very low rates at which this item of traffic is carried, the detention to our wagons after being brought to Chitpore station from stations on the Port Commissioners' tramway, to be inspected by the revenue officer, is obstructive, often causing delay to our trains and increased working expenses.

Miscellaneous goods ... Mds. 49,922
This is attributable in a great measure to the improvement in trade generally, especially at points touched by the Northern Bengal State Railway. Stores, &c., which used to find their way by water on the different carrying companies to the tea-growing and other districts in the vicinity of the Northern Bengal State Railway now are mostly sent by rail.

The decreases are so trifling as to be hardly worthy of remark, the largest being in gunny bundles maunds 9,112, which, now that the seed season has commenced, will, I have no doubt, revive.

Seeds ... Mds. 4,233
The season has been a late one, and this article of produce is only now beginning to find its way to the market, and as the crop is a good one in the large seed-growing districts, I have no doubt but that it will soon show improvement.

I attach the usual statement of increases and decreases.

EASTERN BENGAL RAILWAY COMPANY.

Statement showing Increases and Decreases in Staples carried over this Railway during the five weeks ended the 31st January 1880, as compared with the corresponding period of previous year.

DESCRIPTION.	Down.	Down.	Up.	Up.	Total	Total.	Increase.	Decrease.
	1879.	1880.	1879.	1880.	1879.	1880.		
Alc, beer, wine, &c. ...			1,167	2,381	1,167	2,381	1,214	
Cotton, bundles of ...	821	17	37	823	858	840		516
Do., bales of ...	900		161	23	1,067	23		1,044
Grain, including rice ...	26,053	65,288	6,114	5,703	43,007	70,991	27,924	
Gunny, bundles of ...	13,141	8,260	1,532	2,331	14,666	5,584		9,112
Do., bales of ...	7,013	7,530	279		7,292	7,536	244	
Hides, bundles of ...	14,088	22,030	242	276	14,280	22,226	8,946	
Do., bales of ...	242	1,037			242	1,037	795	
Jute, drums of ...	1,22,700	3,40,620	64	1,128	1,22,850	3,41,748	2,18,898	
Do., bales of ...	45,756	46,148		87	45,756	46,245	489	
Piece-goods, European ...		104	10,207	20,148	10,207	20,552	1,345	
Ditto, Indian ...	88	6			88	5		33
Railway material, foreign ...			11,690	21,530	11,690	21,530	9,833	
Salt ...			33,809	74,483	33,809	74,483	40,674	
Seeds ...	17,113	8,379	2,448	6,949	19,561	15,328		4,233
Sugar ...	7,026	9,530	2,967	6,085	10,013	17,624	6,711	
Tea, European ...								
Do., Indian ...	4,402	12,466	308	24	4,708	12,491	7,696	
Tobacco, bundles of ...	10,732	10,840	812	652	11,544	17,692	6,148	
Do., bales of ...								
Turmeric ...	3,254	1,010	6	4	3,260	1,016		1,442
Twist, European ...		65	2,741	2,572	2,741	5,337	2,596	
Do., Indian ...	136	1,803			136	1,803	1,667	
Miscellaneous ...	13,383	10,790	40,604	1,02,170	63,047	1,12,969	49,922	
Total ...	2,98,793	6,48,656	1,33,272	2,61,099	4,32,065	8,09,755	3,77,690	16,432
							4,32,065	16,432
Increase ...							3,77,690	3,77,690

Weekly Return of Traffic Receipts on Indian Railways.

EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 28th February 1880 on 1,507½ miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.				MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.				TOTAL TRAFFIC RECEIPTS.	TRAIN MILES RUN		
	No. of passengers.	Coaching receipts.			Weight carried.	Receipts.				Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs.	A. P.	£ s. d.	Mds. c.	Rs.	A. P.	£ s. d.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	165,029	2,27,680	11 9	20,888 10 8	15,65,308 20	7,08,130	1 0	64,445 8 5	9,30,808 12 9	80,829	113,277	164,106
Or per mile of railway	.....	151 0 8		13 11 11	.....	468 8 2		42 15 3	617 8 10	.....	.....	.....
For previous 7 weeks of half-year ...	1,155,945	12,28,541	7 6	176,816 9 5	1,12,00,885 20	47,61,078	12 6	435,615 11 1	60,70,920 4 0	500,404	780,420	1,170,824
Total for 8 weeks	1,321,572	14,56,488	8 5	197,670 0 1	1,28,66,194 0	54,54,228	13 0	499,070 10 0	70,10,737 0 9	611,237	902,607	1,513,844
COMPARISON.												
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	165,891	2,73,706	8 3	25,089 15 3	17,83,068 10	7,08,074	9 6	64,907 0 5	9,81,763 1 9	84,617	130,548	185,165
Per mile of railway, corresponding week of previous year	.....	181 0 0		16 12 11	.....	469 12 6		43 1 5	651 6 0	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year	1,383,730	20,40,420	2 6	187,588 10 3	1,41,83,761 30	55,73,780	15 4	510,930 14 11	76,20,210 1 10	453,805	1,077,918	1,531,723

EASTERN BENGAL RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 21st February 1880 on 171½ miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.				MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.				Total receipts.						
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.		Weight carried.	Receipts.										
		Rs.	A. P.	£	s.	d.	Mds.	Rs.	A. P.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Total traffic for the week	47,113	39,640	0 0	3,631	9 10		1,30,638	0	26,717	0 0	2,449	1 2	6,083	11 0	0
Or per mile of railway	275	230	18 8	21	3 3		815	0	155	8 11	14	5 2	35	8 3	0
For previous 7 weeks of half-year	259,504	2,52,085	3 5	23,190	6 2		14,80,927	33	2,72,074	3 5	24,940	6 5	49,130	12 7	7
Total for 8 weeks	306,618	2,92,034	3 5	26,824	10 0		16,05,566	33	2,98,793	3 5	27,389	7 7	64,214	3 7	7
COMPARISON.															
Total for corresponding week of previous year	47,541	42,688	5 3	3,913	2 0		1,69,577	37	28,671	5 5	2,024	4 5	6,341	6 5	0
Per mile of railway, corresponding week of previous year	278	268	14 5	24	12 11		1,003	38	160	9 9	10	11 2	41	4 1	0
Total to corresponding date of previous year	310,665	2,79,409	8 10	25,618	0 3		12,37,043	36	2,20,205	10 9	21,018	15 3	44,686	15 6	0

BENGAL PROVINCIAL RAILWAYS.

Weekly Statement of Traffic Receipts.

No. 4.

Latest return received.	Name of Railway.	Length open.	RECEIPTS FOR WEEK ENDING		TOTAL RECEIPTS FROM 1st JANUARY		Total increase in 1880.	Total decrease in 1880.
			1st February 1879.	31st January 1880.	To 1st February 1879.	To 31st January 1880.		
1880.		Miles.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs.
31st January	Northern Bengal	230	20,067 0 0	32,624 9 0	82,644 0 0	1,34,310 0 0	51,675 0 0	...
14th February	Tirhoot	82	10,000 0 0	10,100 0 0	42,338 0 0	40,701 0 0	...	1,637
21st ditto	Calcutta and South-Eastern	28	2,497 0 0	4,333 0 0	11,529 0 0	12,006 0 0	607 0 0	...
31st January	Nalundi	37	1,653 0 0	1,224 0 0	7,861 0 0	7,425 0 0	...	436
14th February	Patna and Gya	57	...	8,525 0 0	...	40,221 0 0	40,221 0 0	...
	Total	424	34,932 0 0	57,506 0 0	1,44,942 0 0	2,35,272 0 0	92,503 0 0	2,073



SUPPLEMENT TO The Calcutta Gazette.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17, 1880.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

Non-Subscribers to the GAZETTE may receive the SUPPLEMENT separately on payment of Six Rupees per annum if delivered in Calcutta, or Twelve Rupees if sent by Post.

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Rainfall, Weather, and State and Prospects of the Crops.

Statement showing Rainfall, Weather, and State and Prospects of the Crops in the different Districts of Bengal, as reported to Government during the week ending the 13th March 1880.

No.	District, and date of return.	Rainfall at Sudder Station in inches.	Character of the weather, state and prospects of the crops, and state of health at date.
BENGAL.			
<i>Western Districts.</i>			
1	Burdwan, Mar. 13 '80	Nil	Weather—seasonable. Prospects of crops promising. Public health good.
2	Dankooa, „ 13 „	Nil	Weather—getting hot. Spring crops still being reaped. Average outturn expected. Cultivation for <i>aus</i> commenced. Isolated cases of small-pox and cholera reported.
3	Beerbhoom, „ 18 „	Nil	Hot weather setting in; cholera dying out. Cultivation forward. Sugarcane being cut; outturn poor. Other crops very fair.
4	Midnapore, „ 13 „	Nil	Weather—seasonable. State and prospects of crops favorable. General health good.
5	Hooghly, „ 13 „	Nil	Weather—getting warmer, with occasional fogs in morning. Wind from south-east. Sugarcane newly planted and vegetables on ground doing well. Ploughing in many places commenced. A few cases of small-pox still in Serampore thana and Gooptiparah outpost. Some cases of fever and cholera in thana Balagur.
	Howrah „ 15 „	Nil	Weather—fine, clear, and cool for time of year. State and prospects of crops satisfactory.

No	District and date of return.	Rainfall at Sudder Station in inches.	Character of the weather, state and prospects of the crops, and state of health at date.
BENGAL.—(Continued.)			
Central Districts.			
PRESIDENCY DIV.	6 24. Pergunnah, Mar. 13 '80	Nil	Weather—getting warm. Land being ploughed for cultivation of early rice. Prospect of <i>boro dhan</i> at Satkhira promising. Sporadic cases of cholera still at Karpect.
	7 Nudda, .. 13 ..	Nil	Weather—hot and clear. Winter crop being reaped and promises a fair outturn.
	8 Jessore, .. 13 ..	Nil	Weather—hot and dry. Prospects of <i>boro dhan</i> continue good. Stray cases of cholera still reported.
	9 Moorsheadabad, .. 13 ..	Nil	Weather—getting hot. Reaping of <i>rubbee</i> crops going on; prospect good. Fever and cholera still reported from some thanas.
	10 Dinagepore, Mar 12 '80	Nil	Weather—fine, with little wind. Ploughing for <i>bhadoi</i> rice going on.
RAJSHAH AND COCH BEHAR DIV.	11 Rajshahye, .. 13 ..	Nil	Weather—gradually getting warmer. Sowing of <i>amun dhan</i> and <i>teel</i> , and transplanting of <i>boro dhan</i> , continue. <i>Chitali</i> crops being cut; yield generally good. Common rice from 18 to 26 seers per rupee. Public health good.
	12 Rungpore, .. 12 ..	Nil	Weather—become suddenly warm. Some cases of small-pox and cholera reported. Prospects of winter crops continue to be good.
	13 Bogra, .. 13 ..	Nil	Weather—warm for time of year. Some rain fell on night of 12th. State and prospects of crops excellent. Ploughing for <i>aus</i> going on.
	14 Pubna, .. 13 ..	Nil	Weather—getting warmer day by day. State of spring crops good. Public health good.
	15 Darjeeling, .. 13 ..	0.39	Weather—cloudy; rain fell on 12th. Heavy hailstorm in afternoon. In Hills no crop of importance; land being cultivated for early rice. On Hills <i>sama</i> , <i>kaoni</i> , <i>phaphur</i> and <i>bhoutta</i> being sown.
	16 Julpigoree, .. 13 ..	0.09	Weather—very hot; storm last night; still cloudy. Land under preparation for <i>bhadoi</i> . Cold-weather crop harvest turning out well.
	Coch Behar, .. 11 ..	Nil	Weather—fair; very warm for time of year. Early rice being sown in low lands. Tobacco being cut; a very good outturn on the whole. Small-pox very prevalent. Rice continues cheap.
Eastern Districts.			
DACCA DIV.	17 Dacca, Mar. 13 '80	Nil	Weather—fair, and daily getting warmer. <i>Kalai sorsa</i> , <i>khesari</i> , and other pulses being gathered. Outturn very good. Safflower promising. <i>Boro dhan</i> cultivated on muddy beds of rivers and <i>bheels</i> promises a good outturn. Public health good.
	18 Farreedpore, .. 13 ..	Nil	Weather—seasonable. Prospects of crops good. Ploughing for <i>amun</i> and <i>aus</i> progressing. Cases of small-pox in thana Palong.
	19 Backergunge, .. 11 ..	Nil	Weather—much warmer. Prospects of crops everywhere good, but rain wanted shortly.
	20 Mymensingh, .. 12 ..	Nil	Weather—fine; nights cool; days warm. State and prospects of crops good.
	21 Tipperah, .. 12 ..	Nil	Hot weather commenced. Spring crops done well. <i>Aus</i> being sown under favorable conditions.
CHITTAGONG DIV.	22 Chittagong, Mar. 16 '80	Nil	Weather—warm and airy. State of crops promising. Cholera in Moissal and Ukhia. Common rice about 18 seers per rupee.
	23 Noakholly, .. 11 ..	Nil	Weather—suddenly much hotter since March 8th. Heavy fogs in mornings. Ploughing going on vigorously. <i>Khesaree</i> being gathered. Crops looking well.
	24 Chittagong Hill Tracts, .. 9 ..	Nil	Weather—seasonable. Jam cutting still continues. Tobacco, chillie, and other cold-weather crops doing well.
	Hill Tipperah, .. 10 ..	Nil	Weather—warm, with clouds at intervals. Cold-weather crops nearly all harvested; outturn fair. Public health good.
BEHAR.			
PATNA DIV.	25 Patna, Mar. 13 ..	Nil	Weather—seasonable. Prospect of <i>rubbee</i> good.
	26 Gaya, .. 13 ..	Nil	Weather—hot. Maximum reading in shade 95° F. Prospect of <i>rubbee</i> good. Wheat, and gram in a prosperous condition. A few cases of small-pox reported.
	27 Shahabad, .. 13 ..	Nil	Weather—getting warm. East wind prevailing. <i>Rubbee</i> crops excellent. Harvesting of <i>rubar</i> , <i>masoor</i> , and peas on high lands completed. Planting of sugarcane proceeding briskly. Public health good.
	28 Darbhanga, .. 13 ..	Nil	Weather—clear and hot during day. Prospect of <i>rubbee</i> continues excellent. Sugarcane pressing in progress. Prices fallen. Public health good.
	29 Mozafferpore, .. 13 ..	Nil	Weather—mild and clear. Prospect of <i>rubbee</i> crops continue very good. Peas and mustard being harvested. Public health good.
	30 Baran, .. 13 ..	Nil	Weather—fine; getting warm. <i>Rubbee</i> harvest commenced; an excellent outturn expected. Prices stationary. General health good.
	31 Champaran, .. 6 ..	...	Report not received.

No.	District, and date of return.	Rainfall at Sudder Station in inches.	Character of the weather, state and prospects of the crops, and state of health at date.
BEHAR—(Continued)			
32	Monghyr, Mar 13 '80	Nil	Weather—gradually becoming warmer. State and prospects of crops continue good.
33	Bhagulpore, „ 13 „	Nil	Weather—getting very hot. <i>Rubbee</i> crop ripening rapidly.
34	Purneah, „ 13 „	Nil	Weather—sultry. State and prospects of crops good. <i>Bhadoi</i> cultivation progressing.
35	Maidah, „ 13 „	Nil	Hot season setting in. <i>Boro dhan</i> thriving. Winter crops in excellent condition; every prospect of a bumper crop this year. Price of rice fallen slightly. Coarse rice 20 seers per rupee. Public health good.
36	South Patna, „ 14 „	Nil	Weather—unseasonably hot. State and prospects of crops good.
ORISSA.			
37	Cuttack, Mar 13 '80	Nil	Weather—getting warm. <i>Dalua</i> crops progressing well. Rain wanted for ploughing. Small-pox abating. A few cases of cholera reported. Common rice 19½ to 21 seers per rupee.
38	Pooree, „ 11 „	Nil	Weather—fine, with southern wind. Ploughing going on. <i>Dalua</i> paddy in ear. In some places sugarcane still being pressed. Some sporadic cases of cholera reported during week. Small-pox not yet disappeared. Prices stationary.
39	Balasore „ 12 „	Nil	Weather—seasonable and fair. No rain during week. Ploughing in progress. Few cases of cholera and small-pox still reported; otherwise public health fair.
CHOTA NAGPORE			
South-West Frontier Agency.			
40	Hazareebagh, Mar. 12 '80	Nil	Weather—warm, with occasional indications of coming rain. <i>Rubbee</i> crops promising well. Ploughing for early crops progressing. Public health good.
41	Lohardugga, „ 13 „	Nil	Weather—seasonable. Nothing on ground in Sudder sub-division. In Palamow <i>rubbee</i> harvest commenced, and reported to be an excellent one. Small-pox still prevalent.
42	Singbhoora, „ 13 „	Nil	Weather—very hot and oppressive. No crops on ground. General health good.
43	Manbhoora, „ 13 „	Nil	Weather—getting hot. Sugarcane pressing continues. Wheat, &c. promise well. Late rain prepared land for ploughing. <i>Mora</i> flowers beginning to fall.

Published for general information.

CALCUTTA, STATISTICAL DEPT.,
The 16th March 1880.A. MACKENZIE,
Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

Results of the Meteorological Observations taken at the Alipore Observatory from 7th to 13th March 1880

Month	Date	Maximum in sun.	Vega pressure barometer at 32° F.	TEMPERATURE				HYGROMETRY				Prevailing direction	Miles recorded.	Rain	Weather.
				Mean.	Maximum.	Range.	Minimum.	Mean wet bulb.	Vapour tension.	Dew point.	Humidity.				
1880.		⊖	Inches.	⊖	⊖	⊖	⊖	⊖	Inches.	⊖	%			Inches.	
March.	7th	148.2	29.834	73.1	90.0	31.0	59.0	64.0	0.502	69.1	65	Chiefly S W	110	Nil	Chiefly clear, f and w.
"	8th	147.5	804	77.5	91.7	20.5	65.2	67.5	.513	61.3	63	Till 6 A.M. S S W, till midnight W S W	120	"	Clear, f and w.
"	9th	149.7	884	76.9	91.1	23.4	67.7	69.5	.613	65.2	71	Till 3 A.M. W S W, till 6 A.M. W N W, till 2 P.M. through W, S and S E, till midnight S S W through S E and S.	50	"	Clear, f and w.
"	10th	147.0	941	77.7	91.3	22.5	68.8	7.14	.689	68.1	75	Till 7.30 A.M. S S W, till midnight chiefly S.	95	"	Chiefly clear, f and w.
"	11th	147.7	940	78.5	91.7	21.9	69.8	7.03	.633	65.7	68	Till 8 A.M. S S E, till midnight S.	152	"	Chiefly clear, f and w.
"	12th	144.3	853	77.7	85.9	20.8	68.1	6.8	.626	65.4	69	Chiefly S	162	"	Chiefly clear, w.
"	13th	146.8	708	76.8	91.9	22.1	69.8	73.1	.738	70.1	76	Chiefly S	163	"	Chiefly cloudy, w.

The mean pressure of the seven days

The average pressure of the corresponding period for 24 years, S. G. Office

Inches

29.888

29.840

The mean temperature of the seven days

The average temperature of the corresponding period for 24 years, S. G. Office

The extreme variation of temperature during the seven days

The maximum temperature during the seven days

⊖

77.2

84.8

32.9

91.9

The mean relative humidity during the seven days

The average relative humidity of the corresponding period for 24 years, S. G. Office

%

69

69

The total fall of rain from 7th to 13th March 1880

The average fall of the corresponding period for 24 years, S. G. Office

The total fall from 1st January to 13th March 1880

The average fall of the corresponding period for 24 years, S. G. Office

The mean pressure, temperature, &c., are deduced from the traces of the thermograph and barograph.

Inches.

Nil.

0.23

2.96

2.28

The maximum and minimum temperatures are obtained from self-registering thermometers. All the thermometers are verified, and the readings have been corrected to a standard constructed and verified at the Kew Observatory. They are exposed under a thatched shed open at the sides, and are suspended four feet above the ground.

The barometer readings are corrected approximately to those of the standard Newman's No. 86, formerly at the Surveyor-General's Office.

The hygrometric elements are obtained from Tables III, IV, and V of the official tables computed in the Meteorological Office, and based on Regnault's modifications of August's formula.

The direction and movement of the wind are taken from the trace of a Beckley's anemograph.

The mouth of the rain-gauge is one foot above the ground

f fog, w dew.

METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE, INDIA,
The 16th March 1880.

JOHN ELIOT.

For Meteorological Reporter to the Government of India.

Table of Rainfall recorded at Stations in Bengal in February 1880.

[illegible]

Table of Rainfall recorded at Stations in Bengal in February 1880—continued.

[illegible]

[illegible]

Table of Rainfall recorded at Stations in Bengal in February 1880—concluded.

Station.	First week.							Second week.							Third week.							Fourth week.							Last day.	Total rainfall of the last three days.	Total rainfall for the month.	Heaviest rainfall during the month.	Total rainfall from 1st January 1880 up to date.	Average rainfall from 1st January up to date.	
	Total rainfall of the week.							Total rainfall of the week.							Total rainfall of the week.							Total rainfall of the week.													
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	Total rainfall of the week.													
Baran.																																			
Patna District.																																			
Patna								0.01	0.30	1.13					1.53	0.05	0.47	0.02	0.74			0.42													
Belah								0.01	0.15	0.53					0.80	1.55	0.50	0.50			2.40														
Farb								0.01	0.03	0.83					0.75	0.90	0.90	0.12			0.80														
Dimapore								0.01	0.03	1.02					1.05	0.70	0.12				0.82														
Chota District.																																			
Gra															0.01	0.38			0.26			1.77													
Naradab															0.07	0.11			0.50			1.77													
Ayazabad															0.07	0.11			0.50			1.77													
Jahangir															0.07	0.11			0.50			1.77													
															0.07	0.11			0.50			1.77													
Shahabad District.																																			
Arak															1.04	0.05	0.02		0.43			0.08													
Saran															1.04	0.05	0.02		0.43			0.08													
Shah															1.04	0.05	0.02		0.43			0.08													
Shahab															1.04	0.05	0.02		0.43			0.08													
Monrovia District.																																			
M. N. N. N.															0.08	0.43	1.10		0.05			0.40													
M. N. N. N.															0.08	0.43	1.10		0.05			0.40													
M. N. N. N.															0.08	0.43	1.10		0.05			0.40													
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Patna District.																																			
Patna															0.08	0.43	1.10		0.05			0.40													
Patna															0.08	0.43	1.10		0.05			0.40													
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Chota District.																																			
Chota															0.08	0.43	1.10		0.05			0.40													
Chota															0.08	0.43	1.10		0.05			0.40													
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Shahabad District.																																			
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Monrovia District.																																			
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Patna															0.08	0.43	1.10		0.05			0.40													
Patna																																			

[illegible]

* Not received from 15th to 21st February 1990.

♦ Intro from 8th to 14th and 15th to 21st February 1930.

Ditto from 22nd to 24th February 1880.

EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

Statement showing the Totals and Increases and Decreases of Staples during three weeks and three days ending 24th January 1880.

STAPLES.	WEIGHT.		AMOUNT.		1880.			
	1879.	1880.	1879.	1880.	Increase.		Decrease.	
	Mds.	Mds.	Rs.	Rs.	Mds.	Rs.	Mds.	Rs.
Beer, Commissariat	5,804	7,100	6,501	6,792	1,296	891		
" not Commissariat	4,635	4,428	5,781	5,415			507	365
Betel-nuts and leaves	10,071	11,429	10,493	14,020	1,358	4,526		
Boots and shoes	9,074	2,055	4,885	3,800			599	1,119
Brassware	12,167	15,211	11,501	14,497	3,051	2,996		
Bricks	3,883	5,211	1,138	2,430		1,291	672	
Coal, up	8,51,335	5,18,200	1,52,272	1,44,401			83,072	4,171
" down	10,47,480	11,28,122	1,44,008	1,61,791	1,10,002	17,723		
Copper	7,490	11,724	10,479	17,781		4,234		
Cotton	1,18,000	2,02,114	1,90,303	2,46,158	83,205	56,755		
" twist	8,145	10,465	8,236	10,705		1,328	2,150	
Drywoods	4,230	5,020	4,092	5,058	1,417	1,306		
Empty coops, &c	5,080	1,087	2,014	2,732			203	202
Firewood	20,238	22,200	1,903	1,677	2,052	104		
Fruits	20,420	25,068	16,002	19,058	3,058	3,046		
Glassware	8,003	5,455	8,071	4,905	2,472	1,334		
Ghee and oil	28,008	21,802	22,174	20,576		2,200	1,121	
G. B. T. packages	8,505	8,007	7,307	6,477			728	66
Government Commissariat stores	10,740	18,516	16,217	30,750	7,776	13,533		
" Ordnance stores	10,745	10,681	22,537	97,943		1,090	64	
" (Harley)	7,832	19,720	2,784	2,045	3,178	141		
GRAINS, EDIBLE, & PULSES.	5,940	2,252	1,367	808			1,377	810
" Rice	7,07,161	7,04,237	1,78,180	1,43,004			20,234	27,076
" Wheat	97,307	22,129	33,250	22,740			75,188	11,529
" Other grains	9,14,503	8,09,406	2,00,211	1,05,038			5,23,369	1,04,193
" Pulses of all kinds	2,24,077	45,000	197,430	24,618			1,25,337	72,782
Gunny	62,032	48,000	48,521	29,048			14,583	11,878
Hides and horns	84,458	1,25,243	48,170	1,00,778	42,780	32,602		
Indigo	11,715	10,000	17,040	18,218		978	914	
Iron	76,415	62,208	70,974	70,000			9,212	4,900
Jaggery	5,10,100	2,18,302	1,11,500	70,000			83,789	84,760
Lac	20,574	20,077	15,705	14,471	4,603	1,076		
Minerals	37,094	22,000	7,197	6,497				
Mosch flower	5,057	12,155	1,008	2,814	9,006	1,808	12,001	760
Oil-seed	7,928	14,107	1,408	2,801	6,830	1,000		
Opium	51,476	60,198	37,068	60,457	28,602	23,680		
Paper	4,112	6,016	6,114	4,704			490	1,410
Peace-goods	1,10,000	1,16,372	1,44,072	1,81,000		7,621	3,254	
Railway materials, construction account	5,600	13,108	1,347	1,207	7,500			
" foreign	1,18,118	13,005	60,500	85,74			1,04,123	20,022
Roots	25,080	18,400	11,737	9,223			6,603	2,504
Salt	3,08,765	6,08,015	94,483	1,54,740	2,4,850	60,253		
Saltpetre	41,486	44,904	29,464	25,178	8,458	4,709		
Seeds	4,60,004	3,76,244	1,92,220	1,44,420			85,050	3,403
Silk	1,883	1,737	2,217	1,936			140	271
Spelter	6,543	7,483	9,593	11,102	840	1,830		
Spices	13,322	10,851	9,753	7,765			2,471	1,938
Stones	33,004	17,468	7,002	6,572			16,440	1,000
Sugar	31,800	64,130	14,000	26,803	32,830	12,854		
Tea	8,146	2,478	4,810	3,000			668	845
Timber	24,185	23,607	6,300	5,607	282			
Tobacco	20,277	14,157	18,415	13,077			9,220	8,004
Turmeric	9,336	7,242	6,308	4,158			2,096	2,180
Wines	8,710	3,574	7,000	17,213			130	737
Miscellaneous	1,91,080	1,98,305	1,47,380	1,58,440	6,353	11,050		
Total	57,01,497	62,26,335	23,85,276	22,02,326	6,10,328	9,21,863	11,43,400	6,44,908

Calcutta and South-Eastern State Railway.

Statement showing Increases and Decreases in maundage of Staples carried over the line during the month of February 1880, as compared with the corresponding period of February 1879.

STAPLES.	1879.		1880.		1879.	1880.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Up.	Down.	Up.	Down.	Total.	Total.		
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.		
Firewood	40,140	70	43,853		40,210	43,853		3,647
Hay	7,920		6,790		7,920	6,720		1,200
Wooloo	2,100		5,120		2,100	3,120	1,020	
Straw	3,510		2,620		3,510	2,620		890
Paddy	10,287		8,607		10,287	8,507		1,780
Rice	7,078		1,705		7,078	1,706		5,372
Building materials		280		350		280		70
Sundries		1,450		980		1,100		501
Total	87,196	1,800	60,316	1,310	69,023	68,130	1,000	21,060

The decrease in firewood traffic is due to less imports at Canning Ghat.

The decrease in wooloo is due to less demands at selling stations.

The increase in hay is due to greater demand at selling stations.

The decrease in straw is due to less demands.

The decrease in paddy is chiefly due to cultivators of the Port Canning Company's estates selling it to the rice mills, for which they were previously advanced.

The decrease in rice traffic is due to the works of the rice mills not commencing so early as last year.

The increase in building materials is trifling.

The decrease in sundries is due to less repairs to rice mills, &c.

Calcutta, the 15th March 1880.

R. G. MOOKERJEE, Manager.

Nalhati State Railway.

Statement showing Increases and Decreases in maundage of Staples carried over the line during the month of February 1880, as compared with the corresponding period of February 1879.

STAPLES.	1879.		1880.		1879.	1880.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Up.	Down.	Up.	Down.	Total.	Total.		
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Brass and bell-metal ware...	819	201	207	195	1,020	392	—	628
Cotton ...	313	—	722	—	313	322	209	—
Coal ...	5,018	—	26,364	—	5,018	26,364	18,336	—
Edible grains ...	2,322	3,300	1,479	3,292	4,302	4,762	—	143
Gunny ...	391	—	177	—	391	177	—	214
Jaggree and sugar ...	1,000	—	805	—	1,000	805	—	195
Piece-goods ...	1,783	—	870	—	1,783	87	—	1,700
Silk and silk-cloth ...	—	434	—	735	—	735	—	159
Sundries ...	2,315	813	4,158	1,051	3,169	5,209	2,051	—
Shoes ...	100	—	81	—	100	81	—	19
Wine and beer ...	90	—	95	—	90	95	—	1
Total	14,067	4,516	31,436	5,304	19,483	27,324	20,590	2,350

The decrease in brass and bell-metal ware is due to less import for want of demands.

The increase in cotton is due to greater import for greater demand.

The increase in coal is due to greater import for brick-burning.

The decrease in edible grains is trifling.

The decrease in gunny is due to less import for want of demands.

The decrease in jaggree and sugar is due to less import for want of demands.

The decrease in piece-goods is due to less import for want of demands.

The decrease in silk is due to less export.

The increase in sundries is due to greater import for greater demands.

The decrease in shoes is due to less import for want of demands.

The decrease in wine and beer is trifling.

Calcutta, the 15th March 1880.

R. G. MOOKERJEE, Manager.

Weekly Return of Traffic Receipts on Indian Railways.

EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 6th March 1880 on 1,507½ miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.					MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.					TOTAL TRAFFIC RECEIPTS.	TRAIN MILES RUN								
	No. of passen- gers.	Coaching receipts			Weight carried	Receipts.			Coach- ing.	Merchan- dise.		Total.								
		Rs.	A.	P.		Rs.	A.	P.												
Total traffic for the week	161,645	2,20,004	8	0	30,349	11	7	0	6,08,610	14	6	55,780	6	8	8,20,515	6	8	51,015	106,577	167,592
Or per mile of railway	.....	146	9	0	13	8	8		403	12	7	37	0	4	550	8	7	.....	.....	.....
For previous 9 weeks of half- year	1,321,672	21,56,498	9	3	197,079	0	1	0	54,54,328	15	0	409,070	10	6	76,10,727	0	0	411,237	908,007	1,343,935
Total for 9 weeks	1,483,315	23,77,402	11	3	217,928	11	8	0	60,62,839	12	0	555,760	6	2	84,40,243	7	3	402,350	1,009,578	1,501,926
COMPARISON																				
Total for corresponding week of previous year	163,640	2,40,147	9	0	22,015	10	6	0	6,31,159	14	6	57,856	6	6	8,71,307	7	6	53,073	129,136	182,212
Per mile of railway, correspond- ing week of previous year	.....	159	5	3	14	12	1	.....	418	12	0	38	7	9	578	1	3	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year	1,529,371	22,80,667	11	6	209,602	0	9	0	62,04,949	13	10	568,787	1	5	84,91,517	9	4	566,578	1,207,973	1,714,951

EASTERN BENGAL RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 28th February 1880 on 171½ miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.				MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.				Total receipts.				
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.		Weight carried.	Receipts.								
		Rs.	A. P.		Rs.	A. P.							
Total traffic for the week	41,623	41,078	0 0	3,765	0 6	1,94,680	0 0	3,344	3 4	7,129	3 10		
Or per mile of railway	242	239	2 4	21	18 5	1,133	25	213	10 11	41	10 2		
For previous 9 weeks of half-year	311,128	2,96,159	0 0	27,150	14 2	18,66,241	21	2,97,909	9 7	27,310	12 5	34,467	6 10
Total for 9 weeks	332,651	3,37,262	9 0	30,915	14 3	17,59,771	21	3,34,699	9 7	30,620	16 0	61,586	10 6
COMPARISON													
Total for corresponding week of previous year	47,370	49,179	10 10	4,503	2 9	1,74,234	1	37,410	5 4	3,499	5 7	7,937	5 4
Per mile of railway, corresponding week of previous year	276	290	5 0	26	5 0	1,014	16	217	13 1	19	19 4	46	4 4
Total to corresponding date of previous year	387,934	3,78,648	14 8	39,123	3 0	14,12,167	37	2,68,708	0 1	24,464	1 0	54,074	6 0

BENGAL PROVINCIAL RAILWAYS.

Weekly Statement of Traffic Receipts.

No. 5.

Latest return received	Name of Railway	Length open.	RECEIPTS FOR WEEK ENDING				TOTAL RECEIPTS FROM 1ST JANUARY				Total increase in 1880.	Total decrease in 1880.					
			8th February 1879.		7th February 1880.		To 8th February 1879.		To 24th February 1880.								
			Miles.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.								
1880.																	
7th February	Northern Bengal	230	21,022	0	0	31,037	0	0	1,06,666	0	0	1,63,376	0	0	54,710	0	0
21st ditto	Tirhoot	52	12,042	0	0	11,440	0	0	54,430	0	0	53,200	0	0			2,230
28th ditto	Calcutta and South-Eastern	24	2,721	0	0	2,584	0	0	14,720	0	0	15,004	0	0	284	0	0
7th ditto	Nalhati	274	1,755	0	0	1,391	0	0	9,614	0	0	9,316	0	0			398
21st ditto	Patna and Gya	67				8,432	0	0				46,043	0	0	46,043	0	0
	Total	424	40,578	0	0	55,267	0	0	1,85,430	0	0	2,90,530	0	0	1,07,637	0	0



SUPPLEMENT TO The Calcutta Gazette.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24, 1880.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

Non-Subscribers to the GAZETTE may receive the SUPPLEMENT separately on payment of Six Rupees per annum if delivered in Calcutta, or Twelve Rupees if sent by Post.

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Proceedings of the Council of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal for the purpose of making Laws and Regulations.

Saturday, the 13th March 1880.

Present:

HIS HONOR THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR OF BENGAL, *presiding*,
 The Hon'ble G. C. PAUL, C.I.E., *Advocate-General*,
 The Hon'ble C. T. BUCKLAND,
 The Hon'ble H. L. DAMPIER,
 The Hon'ble A. MACKENZIE,
 The Hon'ble J. O'KINEALY,
 The Hon'ble SYED AMEER HOSSAIN.
 The Hon'ble KRISTODAS PAL, RAI BAHADOOR, C.I.E.,
 The Hon'ble J. B. KNIGHT,
 The Hon'ble C. D. FIELD, LL.D.,
 and

The Hon'ble PEARY MOHUN MOOKERJEE.

CALCUTTA PORT IMPROVEMENT ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

THE HON'BLE MR. BUCKLAND, in moving that the further report of the Select Committee on the Bill for amending the Calcutta Port Improvement Act, 1870, be taken into consideration in order to the settlement of the clauses of the Bill, said that it would be in the recollection of the Council that certain amendments had, at the last meeting, been referred back to the Select Committee for further consideration and report. The Select Committee had met, and after consultation

with the Financial Department of the Government of India, the requirements of which high authority had been fully satisfied, the Committee presented the Bill as now amended. Section 8 had been allowed to remain, a few minor alterations had been made in section 6, and a section had been added making clear the Commissioners' powers to work tramways for carrying goods.

The motion was agreed to.

The HON'BLE MR. BUCKLAND also moved that the clauses of the Bill be considered for settlement in the form recommended by the Select Committee.

The motion was agreed to.

The HON'BLE MR. BUCKLAND then moved that the Bill be passed.

The motion was agreed to.

COMPULSORY VACCINATION.

The HON'BLE KRISTODAS PAL said he had been asked to take charge of the Bill to render vaccination compulsory, and he did so with much pleasure. He considered a compulsory Vaccination Bill a legitimate corollary of the Inoculation Prohibition Act. That Act was passed in 1865; it came into immediate operation in Calcutta and its suburbs; it had also been gradually extended to some of the first class municipalities and military cantonments in Bengal. When he declared himself in favour of a compulsory measure of this kind, he did not mean that its extension should be general. He wished to restrict the compulsory law to Calcutta and its suburbs; and if power was given in the Bill to Government to extend it to first and second class municipalities, that provision had been introduced at the special instance of Government. He might, however, mention that the Government was not desirous of extending the compulsory Act throughout Bengal; it proposed to take the necessary power in order to meet sudden emergencies in case of a widespread epidemic of small-pox. But this question would be discussed by the Select Committee to whom the Bill might be referred hereafter.

The case of Calcutta was quite different. Here the process of education in vaccination had been going on for a long time past. Here the first step in this direction had been taken by some of the conservative and leading Hindu families before the prohibition of inoculation by legislative enactment was even thought of by Government. Resting the authority for vaccination on a text of Dhunnuntari, the father of Hindu medicine, the late Rajah Sir Radhakant Deb, the most esteemed leader of the orthodox Hindu community, promulgated, if BABOO KRISTODAS PAL might so express himself, the doctrine of vaccination; and as education had progressed, the old prejudices against it had worn off. Inoculation was prohibited in 1865; and for the last fifteen years Dr. Charles, the Inspector-General of Vaccination, had proved the best educator of the people of Calcutta in the matter of vaccination. The position attained by him was thus described in his own words:—

"The following propositions may be assumed as capable of proof. If any question should arise as to the advisability of accepting them without evidence, I shall be prepared to adduce the proofs when called upon:—

"(a) The great majority of the resident population in Calcutta, amounting perhaps to such a high figure as one above that represented by 95 per cent., have accepted vaccination, or would accept it, as a matter of course, were there any children in the family, and would, if left to themselves, continue to have their children vaccinated.

"(b) Among the floating population, any man, woman, or child, that can be caught by a vaccinator can be, with greater or less difficulty, vaccinated. The exceptions to this proposition are so few as might possibly be represented by such a small figure as 1 per cent.

"(c) Besides the above classes there is a distinct and separate class which consists chiefly of adult males among the floating population, who, from causes inseparably connected with the position, cannot be singled out or caught hold of by the vaccinators. Among this class a considerable percentage consists of unprotected persons. The percentage, though not a large one in itself, may be taken to represent a very considerable number indeed of unprotected persons who constitute a source of great danger to Calcutta. These persons catch small-pox when it prevails, and form so many centres of contagion that it is very difficult for vaccinators to keep pace with an epidemic when it has once begun among them.

"(d) The vaccination, as it has been practised in Calcutta since the year 1864, though in reality only a voluntary system, has virtually amounted to compulsory vaccination. The law it is true does not compel a man to be vaccinated; but the Vaccination Department bring so much pressure to bear on the population that so far as relates to any man, woman, or child belonging to certain classes, their vaccination amounts almost to a certainty; the cases are few indeed in which repeated representations addressed to any unprotected persons fail in inducing them sooner or later to receive vaccination.

"Based on the knowledge of the above facts the argument for compulsory vaccination simply amounts to this. Almost all the educated and the thinking members of the community have already accepted vaccination of their own accord. The uneducated and unthinking part of the population, from one reason or another, already undergo vaccination; the interests of neither will be affected by a vaccine law. The law will chiefly affect a number of adults who come to live among a vaccinated community. Although this number is small when calculated in relation to the general population, yet in itself it is so large as to constitute a very serious source of danger even to a protected population. It is chiefly these people who die during an epidemic of small-pox. A compulsory vaccination law would doubtless save some of their lives; it would do more than this—it would prevent these persons from becoming so many foci of contagion which disseminate small-pox among a comparatively well vaccinated community who are thus exposed to the inconveniences attending on an attack of this disease, although they have availed themselves of the only means at their command to ward off such a visitation."

A compulsory vaccination law would not thus offer any violence to the feelings of the vast majority of the people of Calcutta. It would simply give legal sanction to a practice which had been already voluntarily accepted by most of his countrymen dwelling in this great city.

Nevertheless prejudices existed among certain sections of the community. Their adherence to tyrant custom was so strong that no amount of persuasion or moral pressure would avail. He witnessed a sad illustration of this fact in his own neighbourhood during the epidemic of 1877-78. The braziers of Kansariparah formed a compact guild; they had many estimable qualities; they were an industrious and thriving class; they were independent in spirit, and, as a body, unsophisticated in mind and manner; but they had a strong prejudice against both inoculation and vaccination. During the epidemic there was scarcely a house among them which was not converted into a house of mourning. Young cherubs were snatched away from the bosoms of their mothers; one, two, three successively fell victims to the fell disease in the same house, and still the fortress of prejudice remained impregnable. The army of vaccinators laid siege to it, but without effect; the chief of their clan capitulated by setting an example in his own house, but the mass remained unmoved. At last some of them gave in; but it was then too late. Now, he submitted, a double responsibility rested upon these men. As parents and guardians of young children who could not think for themselves, and who were entirely under their control, they were bound to protect their lives from the fatal disease; and as neighbours, they had no right to put the whole neighbourhood in danger by gratifying their own unreasoning prejudice. To meet cases of this kind a compulsory law was absolutely necessary. The only objection he had heard against such a law was that it would be an arbitrary interference with the liberty of the subject. Those who took this objection forgot that the whole course of penal legislation against the committal of nuisances might be objected to on that ground. They might as well say that the Legislature had no right to restrain a man from committing breaches of the peace, because it interfered with the liberty of the subject, or prevented him from doing what he in his sweet will might be pleased to do. They forgot that when men formed members of a community, individual liberty ought to be made subservient to the good of that community. An individual was but a component part of a community; and if the interests of the community required a certain sacrifice, no individual member of it should complain.

It was not necessary for him to dwell at length on the subject. He might, however, remind the Council that the British Government had been engaged in diffusing vaccination from the earliest period of its establishment in this country. Vaccination, he read in Dr. Green's report on vaccine operations, was introduced under the auspices of no less a personage than Lord Clive in 1802. The earliest report on vaccination in Bengal was that of Dr. Shoolbred, Surgeon to the Native Hospital at Calcutta for the year 1804, published by order of Government in 1805. The total number vaccinated during 1804 in the Bengal Provinces (including, besides, Prince of Wales Island and Fort Marlborough) was 8,140. The office of Superintendent-General of Vaccination seemed to have been instituted at Calcutta early in this century. The first grand step in advance was taken in Bombay under the enlightened rule of that eminent statesman, Monstuart Elphinstone, in 1827. In 1854 the Bombay system was introduced into the North-Western Provinces under the able superintendence of Dr. Pearson. In Madras no proper system was introduced

till 1865. Vaccination under a European Superintendent was introduced into the Central Provinces in 1864, and into Oudh in 1867. Thus our Government had taken an active part in this work of humanity from the beginning of this century.

But the vaccine operations of our Government had hitherto been carried on on the voluntary principle. In 1877 a compulsory law was passed for Bombay. A Bill had been introduced in the Council of the Governor-General giving power to the local Governments which had no local legislatures to extend the benefit of vaccination to municipalities and military cantonments within their respective territories. He thought that the time had arrived for the enactment of a similar law for the metropolis of British India.

As regards the details of the Bill, he would not trouble the Council with any remarks at the present stage. The questions as to what kind of lymph should be used; whether any fee should be charged for vaccination; whether the poorer classes should be provided with gratuitous vaccination, and if so, under what conditions; whether females who, according to the custom of the country, could not appear in public, if too poor to pay the fee, should be vaccinated free of charge, and what procedure should be followed in enforcing vaccination: all these questions would be noticed when the Bill would be read in Council.

He now moved for leave to introduce the Bill.

The HON'BLE SYUD AMEER HOSSEIN said. The necessity for legislation on the subject of compulsory vaccination had been very clearly and forcibly put forward by his hon'ble friend, and he had nothing to add to it except that he considered that the enactment of the proposed law would serve to remove the present anomalous state of things. For the last fifteen years a law was in force prohibiting inoculation. This Act had been extended to almost all the large towns and municipalities in the mofussil. Side by side with this Act there was a system of *optional* vaccination. This he considered to be an anomaly, for the simple reason that in the places in which inoculation was interdicted vaccination ought to be insisted upon, otherwise a large number of innocent children would fall victims to the ravages of the fell disease, small-pox, when it broke out in an epidemic form.

A similar Bill had been introduced in the upper Council by his hon'ble friend Syud Ahmed Khan Bahadur, and had been opposed by certain local Governments on the ground that the measure was not acceptable to the people. SYUD AMEER HOSSEIN said that he attributed this opposition on the part of the people to the backward state of education in those parts of the country; and he trusted that no such objection would be made on behalf of enlightened and educated Bengal, specially when the Bill about to be introduced in this Council had for its mover his hon'ble friend Baboo Kristodas Pal, who was deservedly held in great respect by the people of all classes in Bengal.

As for the province of Behar, His Honor the President was aware that Mahomedans had no possible religious grounds to urge against the system of vaccination; and the Hindus residing in large towns and municipalities had for many years past been familiar with the operation of vaccination and appreciated its benefits. While a sub-divisional officer in a Behar district, he had introduced the administration of the prophylactic with great success by winning over a large number of the Brahman inoculators and appointing them as vaccinators. They had gladly exchanged their virus and bunches of needles for the lymph and lancet, and he had given them full liberty to perform the poojah usually offered during the first nine days after the operation. His experience was that so long as the Government did not interfere (as he had no doubt it would not) with the rites of the poojah, there was no fear of opposition on the part of the Hindu priesthood.

The motion was agreed to.

PUBLIC DEMANDS RECOVERY BILL.

THE HON'BLE MR. FIELD, in moving for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the law for the Recovery of Public Demands, said that the subject was one which had already engaged the attention of the Council some years ago in 1868, when Act VII of that year was passed and placed upon the Bengal Statute-book. That Act was prepared by a former learned Advocate-General,

Mr. Cowie. The object of the Act was twofold. It first amended the Revenue Sale Law—Act XI of 1859; that is, the law for the recovery of arrears of land revenue by the sale of the estate upon which those arrears had accrued. In the second place it provided a procedure for the recovery of certain demands due to the State. The nature of that procedure was this. A public officer of Government was empowered to certify that a certain sum of money was due, and to this certificate was given the force of a decree. This decree is executed as the decree of a civil court, but with this difference that the machinery employed in executing it consists of the Collector and his subordinate officers instead of the ordinary machinery of the civil courts. In all countries the State—the Exchequer—has reserved to itself a special and peculiar procedure for the recovery of certain dues and debts owing to itself. Between private individuals the ordinary practice is that a person to whom a debt is due resorts to the Civil Court, and after an adjudication upon the rights of the parties, the Court embodies this adjudication in a decree, the execution of which enables one person, the plaintiff, to compel another person, the defendant, to pay the debt justly demandable from him. In the case of the State, in most countries the Government has declined to resort to the ordinary tribunals, and it has reserved to itself a special procedure to enforce its own demands. In this country from the earliest period there has been a difference. In all cases of disputed right the Government has submitted itself to the jurisdiction of civil courts. In this principle, as a principle no change was made in 1868, and it is not proposed to make any change now. But there are certain number of demands in the nature of taxes, fines, and other dues, in respect of which the only real question is whether they have been paid or not, and as to the right of recovering which no question arises. It is in respect of this class of claims, then, that the Act of 1868 provided a special procedure, and that procedure it is on the present occasion proposed to maintain and improve. In 1868 it was attempted to enumerate and classify the particular demands to which this procedure should be made applicable. The Statute-book was, however, then in an uncertain and confused state, and it was extremely difficult to know what portions of the old Bengal Regulations were in force and what portions had been repealed or modified. As a natural consequence, the classification attempted in 1868 was in the course of a few years found to be incomplete, and in 1875 a short amending Bill was brought into this Council and passed. In the course of the few years that have since elapsed, the working of the Act of 1868, and the experience derived from its working, have brought to light further omissions; and now that the Statute-book has been brought into a state of order, and it is known exactly what old Regulations are in force and what have been repealed, it is possible to attempt a complete enumeration and classification of those items of Public Demands created by existing Statutes, which it is desirable to bring under this special procedure. What then the Bill proposed to do is this: it would repeal so much of the Act of 1868 as was connected with the second object already stated, *viz.*, the recovery of public demands. That portion of the Act which was connected with the realization of land revenue by the sale of estates, and which was an amendment of Act XI of 1859, it was not intended to touch. The second portion it was proposed to repeal, and to enact in an amended and more complete form. It has been attempted to give a complete enumeration of all those public demands created by the existing law which it has been thought desirable to recover by this special procedure, and a clause has been added enabling future Acts by a few words to refer to this special procedure, so that in the case of any new demand, or tax, or fine, or due, a few words introduced into any future Act will make it recoverable under this procedure. The Bill has been drafted, and, if this motion is allowed, will at once be placed in the hands of hon'ble members. The Statement of Objects and Reasons appended to it sets forth fully what it is proposed to do. He would not therefore trouble the Council with further details, some of which are technical, and many of which are not very intelligible apart from the text which they explain. With these remarks he begged to move for leave to introduce the Bill.

The motion was agreed to.

The Council was adjourned to Saturday, the 20th instant.

REPORT ON THE "NEW DISEASE."

No. 397, dated Calcutta, the 27th February 1880.

From—R. TURNBULL, Esq., Secretary to the Corporation of the Town of Calcutta,
To—The Assistant Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

I AM directed to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. 143, dated 12th instant, calling for a special report on the "new disease" referred to in the newspapers as now to some extent prevailing in Calcutta.

2. Your letter under acknowledgment was referred to the Health Officer, and I have now the honor to forward a copy of the report which has been submitted by Dr. McLeod on the subject.

No. 122, dated Calcutta, the 27th February 1880.

From—SURGEON-MAJOR K. McLEOD, A.M., M.D., Health Officer, Calcutta,
To—The Chairman of the Municipal Corporation of the Town of Calcutta.

REFERRING to Bengal Government letter No. 143, dated 12th February 1880, I have the honor to submit the following report regarding the "new disease" which has lately appeared in Calcutta.

2. Though this disease has been attracting special attention within the last month or two, it has prevailed in the suburbs for some time past, and has also broken out in several other parts of Bengal. The information in my possession regarding the prevalence of the malady is as follows. It is said to have been prevalent in the district of Midnapore in the year 1876, and to have travelled thither from Orissa. On this point I have no accurate information, nor has the present Civil Surgeon of Midnapore, to whom I wrote on the subject, been able to furnish me with any. It is certain that the disease broke out in the southern suburbs (Garden Reach and its neighbourhood) in the rains of 1877, and it was again observed over a larger area of the same suburbs and in some villages to the east of Calcutta in 1878. Dr. Payne alludes to it in his report for the third quarter of that year, and Drs. MacConnell and Harvey, who held the office of Civil Surgeon during the later months of the year, have reported on it. Dr. Cayley treated several cases in the Mayo Hospital in September. The disease appears to have broken out during the rains, and subsided as the cold weather advanced. The same disease prevailed in Dacca in January and February 1879, and appeared in Shillong in October 1878. Dr. O'Brien, writing in the May (1879) number of the *Indian Medical Gazette*, states that 200 cases had occurred in that station, and that new cases were appearing daily. He believes that it was imported from Dacca, and records that it prevailed in Cachar, Sylhet, the Khasia Hills, and some of the districts of Assam Proper. His statement, as far as Sylhet is concerned, is confirmed by a "planter's doctor," Dr. Alexander Nairne of south Sylhet, who, writing to the *British Medical Journal*, mentions that it prevailed in August and September.

3. The present epidemic made itself known towards the close of 1879. A fresh outbreak seems to have occurred in the southern and eastern suburbs, and Calcutta was invaded for the first time. The portions of the town where the disease has prevailed are continuous with, or contiguous to, those parts of the suburbs which were previously attacked, namely, the bustees belonging to Bhowanipore and Ballygunge police sections, situated immediately to the south of the south Circular Road. Through Mr. Lambert's courtesy I have had replies to a few simple questions from all the police sections of the town and suburbs regarding the locality and extent of prevalence of the disease. These replies may be summarized as follows:—

I.—TOWN.

(a).—Sections in which no cases have occurred.

A. Shampooker.
B. Coomertolly.
C. Burtollah.
D. Sukea's Street.
E. Jora Bagan.
G. Burra Bazar.

H. Colootollah.
I. Moecheeparah.
K. Puddopooker.
L. Waterloo Street.
R. Hastings.

(b.)—Sections in which imported cases have been reported.

- F. Jorasanko (two from Woolput Bagan).
- J. Bow Bazar (one from Chowringhee Road).
- M. Fenwick Bazar (one from Mullick Bazar in Collingah).
- N. Toltollah (two from Collingah).

(c.)—Sections in which the disease has prevailed epidemically.

- O. Collingah (Elliot Road, Goristan Lane, Short's Bazar, and Golam Shoban's Lane).
- P. Park Street (Hill's Bazar and Choona Bustee).
- Q. Bamun Bustee (Colvin Bustee and Gooreeparah).

II.—SUBURBS.

(a.)—Sections in which no cases have occurred.

- A. Cassipore.
- C. Ooltadangah.

E Balliaghatta.

(b.) Sections in which the disease has prevailed epidemically.

- B. Chitpore (Burranagore two cases).
- D. Manicktolla (a few cases in 1878 on Manicktolla Road).
- F. Entally (Gobra).
- G. Baniapooker (Kurriah, Jamnuggur, and Nonapooker).
- H. Ballygunge (Malye Bustee, Aheerapooker, Shamiadar Bazar, Begg Bazar, Kurriah, and Chamarpooker).
- I. Bhowanipore (Koyroo Tallao, Woolput Bagan, Gungaram Bustee, adjoining South Circular Road).
- J. Tallygunge (Gobindpore).
- K. & L. Alipore and Doorgapore (Gopalnuggur Road, Gwalior Ghat, Kallyghat, Bridge Road, Moonsheeparah, Koolaparah, Moyapore, Kristopore, Bostomparah, Chetla Road, and Kassaryputty).
- M. Watgunge (Koottree Road and Kalibagan).
- N. Ekbalpore (Ekbalpore, Mominpore, Foolparah, Jeebun, Manjee's Bagan).
- O. Garden Reach (Moocheekhola and Mateabrooj).

4. From these details it is evident that the disease is more widely prevalent in the suburbs than in the town; that the northerly sections of both are as yet exempt, and that the disease has travelled further northwards in the easterly suburbs than in the town. I have indicated roughly on the accompanying map the localities where the disease has prevailed this cold weather.

5. I have visited all the localities in the town and one place in the suburbs where the disease prevails, and from my own inquiries and the information supplied by the police it is evident that it broke out almost simultaneously in the affected localities towards the latter end of November and beginning of December, about the time of the Mohurram.

6. The extent to which the disease has prevailed, and the mortality which it has caused, are represented in the following statement prepared from the police reports:—

I.—Town Sections.					Cases.	Deaths.
F.	Jorasanko	...	...	...	2	...
J.	Bow Bazar	...	...	...	1	...
M.	Fenwick Bazar	...	...	...	1	...
N.	Toltollah	...	...	...	2	1
O.	Collingah	...	...	...	182	35
P.	Park Street	...	...	...	13	3
Q.	Bamun Bustee	...	...	...	65	12
Total					266	51
II.—Suburban Sections.					Cases.	Deaths.
B.	Chitpore	...	...	...	2	...
D.	Manicktolla	...	...	...	8	...
F.	Entally	...	...	...	6	2
G.	Baniapooker	...	...	...	22	4
H.	Ballygunge	...	...	...	204	107
I.	Bhowanipore	...	...	...	33	16
J.	Tallygunge	...	...	...	1	1
K. & L.	Alipore and Doorgapore	...	...	...	54	6
M.	Watgunge	...	...	...	2	2
N.	Ekbalpore	...	...	...	33	25
O.	Garden Reach	...	...	...	2	...
Total					367	163

7. In relation to the population of the suburbs, the prevalence and mortality have been slight, and still less so in the town. I had a special inquiry made in Short's Bazar with the following results:—

Number of houses	...	...	...	60
Ditto inhabitants, say	...	...	...	390
Ditto houses attacked	...	...	...	10
Ditto inhabitants in these	...	...	...	65
Ditto attacked	...	...	...	15
Ditto died	...	...	...	10

When limited areas where the disease has prevailed are taken, of course the incidence and mortality attain higher proportions.

The rate of mortality given by the town figures is about 20 per cent., and by the suburban about 44. These figures are not, however, entitled to more reliance than to indicate that the mortality is considerable in relation to cases, though slight in relation to population.

8. The facts regarding the manner of outbreak which I have gathered are as follows:—

- (a.) It has attacked houses in a village in a promiscuous way. The affected homesteads are mostly scattered throughout the locality, and not necessarily contiguous.
- (b.) The rule has been that several or all the members of a household have been seized, and single cases in a family are exceptional.
- (c.) Such seizures have taken place almost simultaneously or in rapid succession, as if from the operation of a common cause.
- (d.) Similarly, as I have already remarked, the seizure of different houses in a village appears to have been simultaneous; indeed the disease seems to have broken out all over the infected area about the same time.
- (e.) Recent cases are rare, and, according to the latest information I have gathered, the disease would seem to be dying out.

9. The symptoms of the disease are very definite, viz.—

- (a.) Swelling of the limbs—the lower always, sometimes the upper, and occasionally the body.
- (b.) Fever sometimes before and sometimes after the swelling, and in some cases altogether absent.
- (c.) Bowel complaint in many cases—diarrhoea most commonly, dysentery in a few.
- (d.) Burning and pain in the affected limbs at the commencement.
- (e.) Shortness of breathing and cough, and palpitation in all cases.
- (f.) Great emaciation, exhaustion, and anæmia in severe cases, alighter but well marked in all.
- (g.) The duration of the disease appears to be about two months in cases of average severity, but it leaves its victim greatly enfeebled.
- (h.) In fatal cases great disturbance of respiration and circulation have been described, and death has generally been sudden.

The foregoing details will probably be considered sufficient for a public report. The malady is undergoing careful investigation in the hospitals, and important information regarding its phenomena is being recorded in the *Transactions of the Calcutta Medical Society*.

10. As regards the nature of the disease, it is impossible as yet to write very definitely. The prevailing opinion appears to be that it is the same disease as has been described by observers in Madras and Ceylon under the term Beri-beri. I am myself inclined to favour this view, but the point has not been definitely settled yet, and it would be out of place to discuss it here.

11. As regards causation, I am not able to pronounce a positive opinion:

- (a.)—Though it is most prevalent among the poorer classes of Mahomedans and Hindus, it is by no means confined to these. Eurasians, Armenians, and natives in good circumstances have also suffered.

(b.)—I cannot attribute it to poverty of living, high price of food, or any dietetic condition or consequent constitutional taint. Well-fed Mahomedan butchers, accustomed to generous living and in excellent bodily condition, have been seized, and, although I have observed indications of anæmia and scurvy in some cases, I am inclined to consider them secondary conditions due to the disease, and not the cause of it.

(c.)—Nor have I observed any special insanitary conditions associated with its prevalence. The sanitary conditions of the households and villages in which the disease has broken out are certainly no worse than those of hundreds of others in town and suburbs, where no disease has prevailed. In short, I have been unable to fix upon any one condition or assemblage of conditions, personal or otherwise, peculiar to the affected places.

(d.)—As regards infectiousness, the evidence is very conflicting. Dr. O'Brien considers the disease to be very infectious, and gives good reasons for his belief. Facts have come to my knowledge which favour the impression that the disease is communicable, while others have opposed that view. If it is infectious (and I am not prepared to deny this), it is so under conditions, seasonal and otherwise, which strongly modify its manner of transfer from man to man. The gradual spread northwards, the pronounced localization, and the seizure of whole families, are the most remarkable circumstances in the natural history of the malady considered from an epidemiological point of view.

12. As regards relief measures, I am of opinion that no special steps are required. The people have been resorting to hospitals and dispensaries, and those able to afford it calling in medical practitioners. The disease has not attained dimensions demanding special relief measures, and the existing organizations for public medical relief are quite able to cope with the emergency. Though no special remedy has been discovered for this disease, judicious medical treatment is capable of relieving urgent symptoms and accelerating recovery. Many of the people labouring under the disease would not take European medicines if they were sent to their houses, and those who desire medical advice and medicines know where to send or go for them. I cannot specify any sanitary measure which is specially indicated. In one affected village (Hill's Bazar) I found the drainage in a very bad condition; in another (Elliott Road) a very foul tank exists. I have strongly recommended that both these faults should be remedied, and measures are being taken to that end.

13. Though the disease appears now to be abating or dying out, it is quite possible, nay probable, that it will break out again during or after next rains, and perhaps advance northward beyond its present limits. I shall keep myself carefully informed on the subject, and report if any extension or revival takes place.

Rainfall, Weather, and State and Prospects of the Crops.

Statement showing Rainfall, Weather, and State and Prospects of the Crops in the different Districts of Bengal, as reported to Government during the week ending the 20th March 1880.

No.	District, and date of return.	Rainfall at Sudder Station in inches.	Character of the weather, state and prospects of the crops, and state of health at date.
BENGAL.			
<i>Western Districts.</i>			
BURDWAN DIV.	1 Burdwan. Mar. 20 '80	Nil	Weather—very hot. Prospects of crops good. Cholera has appeared in five thanas; otherwise public health good.
	2 Bankoora. „ 20 „	Nil	Weather—hot. Pressing of sugarcane nearly finished; outturn not very good. Common rice 15 to 22 seers per rupee. A few cases of cholera and small-pox in Bishenpore.
	3 Beerbhoom. „ 20 „	Nil	Weather—getting hot. Crops on ground in good condition. Cholera still about.
	4 Midnapore. „ 20 „	Nil	Weather—very hot. State and prospects of crops favorable. Small-pox and cholera prevalent in Ghatal sub-division, and have broken out in Sudder station and elsewhere.
	5 Hooghly. „ 20 „	Nil	Weather—foggy in mornings throughout week. High wind. Sugarcane and vegetables doing well. Ploughing progressing. Some cases of cholera and small-pox. A few cases of cholera reported from north.
	Howrah „ 22 „	Nil	Weather—windy and stormy. Rain required. Public health fair, though in places slight outbreaks of small-pox reported.
<i>Central Districts.</i>			
PRESDIDENT DIV.	6 24-Pergunnahs, Mar. 20 '80	Nil	Weather—hot. High wind prevails. Ploughing going on. Prospects of <i>boro dhan</i> at Sakhira good. Cholera still continues at Baraset.
	7 Nuddea. „ 20 „	Nil	Weather—hot; latterly cloudy. Winter crops being reaped with a moderate outturn. Ploughing for early rice begun. Public health generally good.
	8 Jessore, „ 20 „	1-30	Weather—hot. Heavy storm on night of 19th. <i>Boro dhan</i> still promises well, except in Bagirhat, where rain wanted. Rain done good in Sudder. Health good.
	9 Moorshedabad. „ 20 „	0-05	Weather—getting hot. Reaping of <i>rubbee</i> crops not yet over. Prospects good. Fever and cholera still in some thanas.
RAJSHAHY AND COCH BEHAR DIV.	10 Dinagepore. Mar. 19 '80	0-8	Weather—warm in beginning of week. Cooler and cloudy from 16th, with high north-easterly wind. <i>Rubbee</i> crops harvested. Land being prepared for <i>Bhadoi dhan</i> . Rice 17 to 23 seers per rupee. Some cases of small-pox and cholera.
	11 Rajshahy. „ 20 „	Nil	Weather—hot in daytime. Wind variable, generally from north and north-east in evenings, sometimes very strong. Cloudy during latter part of week, but no rain. Sowing of <i>dhan</i> and <i>teel</i> continues; latter nearly finished. <i>Chattali</i> harvest going on. Outturn generally good. A few cases of small-pox reported from thanas Lalpore, Tanore, and Bagmara, and a few cases of cholera from lastnamed thanas. Price of common rice from 18 to 24 seers.
	12 Rungpore. „ 19 „	0-59	Weather—still cloudy. A hard north-easterly wind still blowing and cooling atmosphere. State and prospects of crops continue favorable, but recent rain injurious to <i>axe</i> sowings and tobacco. Hail in Kurigram injured tobacco and mangoes. Stray cases of cholera and small-pox still occur.
	Kurigram „ „	2-01	
	13 Bogra. „ 20 „	0-07	Weather—cloudy, with occasional showers. Crops on ground promising.
	14 Pubna. „ 20 „	Nil	Weather—warm at noon, with high wind. Morning and evening cloudy since last three days. Prospects of winter crops very good. Public health generally good.
	15 Darjeeling. „ 20 „	3-18	Rain almost every day during week, and thick mist. In Terai no crops on land. In Hills Indian-corn, <i>sama</i> , and <i>kaoni</i> being sown. Tea manufacture already begun; an early flush expected.
	16 Jalpigoree. „ 20 „	1-75	Stormy weather with strong east wind and heavy rain. <i>Bhadoi</i> sowings commenced here and there, and cultivation still going on. <i>Rubbee</i> crops being gathered with fair outturn. General health good.
DACCA DIV.	Coch Behar. „ 18 „	0-44	Beginning of week fair and hot. Cloudy and stormy towards its close. A heavy hailstorm, with very large hailstones, done a little damage to tobacco; but general prospects very good. Early rice cultivation progressing actively. Small-pox still actively prevalent, but rain and cool weather may cause it to abate in virulence.
	Dinbatta „ „	0-05	
	<i>Eastern Districts.</i>		
	17 Dacca. Mar. 20 '80	9-02	Weather—cloudy, with strong south-easterly wind. Heavy rain on 18th and 19th. Tobacco, <i>cheena</i> , and <i>boro</i> partially damaged by hailstones. Mango blossoms also suffered. Outturn of <i>khasari</i> excellent. Public health good.
	Moonsbigunge (for week ending 17th Mar.)	1-62	
	Manickgunge (for week ending 17th Mar.)	0-10	
	18 Farredpore. „ 21 „	3-30	Weather—stormy and showery. Crops good. A few cases of small-pox. Public health generally good.
	Goulundo „ „	1-98	
	19 Backergunge. „ 18 „	Nil	Weather—seasonable. High wind prevailing in latter part of week. Prospects of crops good.
	20 Mymensinga. „ 19 „	0-26	Weather—stormy, with high east wind. Rain during latter part of week. State and prospects of crops good.
	21 Tipperah. „ 19 „	3-51	Strong south-east wind. Sky cloudy. Heavy rain accompanied with high wind towards end of week. <i>Boro dhan</i> thriving. Ploughing going on. <i>Axe</i> being sown. Heavy showers will do much good.
	Brahmunberiah „ „	0-37	
	Chandpore „ „	3-25	

No.	District and date of return	Rainfall at Sudder Station in inches.	Character of the weather, state and prospects of the crops, and state of health at date.
BENGAL.—(Continued.)			
<i>Eastern Districts.—(Continued)</i>			
CHITTAGONG DIV.	23 Chittagong, Mar. 23 '80	0.75	Weather—cloudy, with southern wind and showers at intervals. Crops much benefited by rain. Cholera still prevails in Moiscal and Ukhia.
	23 Noakholly, „ 18 „	1.57	Wind blowing hard from south. Rain in evenings of 15th, 16th, and 17th. State and prospects of crops good. Much ploughing going on. Linseed ripe. Pulses showing above ground.
	24 Chittagong Hill Tracts, „ 16 „	Nil	Weather—seasonable. Cloudy on 15th. <i>Jum</i> cutting still continues. Tobacco and other winter crops doing fairly well. Public health good.
	Hill Tipperah, „ 17 „	Nil	Weather—windy and cloudy. Winter crops gathered. Prospects of <i>boro</i> and <i>sati</i> paddy fair. Public health good.
BHAR.			
PATNA DIV.	25 Patna, Mar. 20 „	Nil	Weather—getting warmer daily. <i>Rubbee</i> crops being cut; outturn good.
	26 Oya, „ 20 '80	Nil	Weather—hot. Maximum reading in shade 102.2. Prospects of <i>rubbee</i> fair. In some places grain being cut. Public health generally good.
	27 Shahabad, „ 20 „	Nil	East wind and cloudy weather. Harvesting of <i>rubbee</i> crops going on well. Cloudy weather may do some injury to mango, which is now in blossom.
	28 Darbhanga, „ 20 „	Nil	Weather—cloudy, with strong east wind. <i>Rubbee</i> crops being harvested; every prospect of good outturn. Mustard cut. Prices of rice and other grain falling. Public health good.
	29 Mozufferpore, „ 20 „	Nil	Weather—fine. Prospects of <i>rubbee</i> crops continue very good. Peas, mustard and <i>masoor</i> still being harvested. Prices stationary. Public health good.
	30 Saran, „ 20 „	Nil	Weather—clear and bright; last two days cloudy, with east wind. <i>Rubbee</i> crops being harvested. Prices stationary. General health good.
BRACULFOOD DIV.	31 Champaran, „ 20 „	Nil	Weather—cloudy. East wind. State and prospects of crops excellent. <i>Rubbee</i> ripe and being harvested.
	32 Monghyr, Mar. 20 '80	Nil	Weather—much colder again for the last few days, with high east wind. Prospects continue good. Mango and <i>mohua</i> crops promise to be large. <i>Rubbee</i> harvest commenced in Beguoserai sub-division.
	33 Bhagulpor, „ 20 „	Nil	Strong easterly wind and cloudy weather. <i>Rubbee</i> harvest commencing. Prospects good.
	34 Purneah, „ 20 „	Nil	Strong easterly wind prevailed, causing a great fall of temperature. State and prospects of crops good. <i>Bhadai</i> cultivation progressing.
	35 Malda, „ 20 „	0.75	Weather—cloudy. Easterly wind blowing. A slight shower on morning of 20th. Cold-weather crops prospering. Cutting of wheat and barley not yet completed. <i>Boro dhan</i> thriving. General health good.
	36 Sonthal Pergas, „ 20 „	Nil	Morning cloudy. East wind. Weather cool. Nearly all crops above average.
ORISSA.			
ORISSA DIV.	37 Cuttack, Mar. 18 „	Nil	Report not received.
	38 Pooree, „ 18 „	Nil	Weather—fine, with southern wind. Ploughing going on. <i>Dalua</i> rice progressing well. Castor and other cold-weather crops being gathered. Sporadic cases of cholera also this week. Small-pox not yet disappeared. Common rice 18 to 23 seers per rupee.
	39 Balasore, „ 19 „	Nil	Strong south wind blowing. Days very hot. Rain much wanted for ploughing. Small-pox abating. Few cases of sporadic cholera; otherwise public health good.
CHOTA NAGPORE.			
<i>South-West Frontier Agency.</i>			
40	Hazarrebagh, Mar. 19 '80	Nil	Days warm; nights cool. <i>Rubbee</i> crops being harvested with good results. Public health good.
41	Lohardugga, „ 20 „	Nil	Strong west wind blowing. Weather hotter than usual at this time of year. <i>Rubbee</i> harvest in Palamow estimated at 12 or 13 annas. Small-pox still very prevalent.
42	Singbhoom, „ 19 „	Nil	Weather—very hot, with strong west wind. No crops now on ground. Few cases of small-pox reported from Dhalbhoom and Kharsowah.
43	Manbhoom, „ 20 „	Nil	Weather—dry and hot. <i>Rubbee</i> crops doing well; harvest begun. <i>Mohua</i> flowers falling. Ploughing continues. A few cases of cholera in Sudder than; one case of small-pox in Jeypore.

Published for general information.

CALCUTTA, STATISTICAL DEPT.,
The 23rd March 1880.A. MACKENZIE,
Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

RETAIL PRICES-CURRENT of Food-grains, Firewood, and Salt in the under-

Number.		DISTRICTS	QUANTITIES PER RUPEE BY																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																										
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1	Burdwan

A In the interior the prices range as follow :—Wheat 13 to 16 seers, barley 20 to 23½ seers, best rice 14 to 16 seers, common rice 16 to 21 seers, and gram 11½ to 14½ seers.

B In the interior the prices range as follow :—Wheat 9 to 13 seers, barley 11 to 34 seers, best rice 13 to 23 seers, common rice 15 to 22 seers, maize or Indian-corn 26 to 32 seers, and gram 8 to 14 seers.

C In the interior the prices range as follow :—Wheat 11 to 15½ seers, best rice 13½ to 20 seers, common rice 17½ to 22½ seers, and gram 10 to 21 seers.

D In the interior the prices range as follow :—Wheat 12 to 18 seers, barley 16 seers, best rice 7 to 13½ seers, common rice 14 to 16½ seers, and gram 11 to 13 seers.

E In the interior the prices range as follow :—Wheat 10½ to 11½ seers, barley 13½ to 15 seers, best rice 6½ seers, common rice 13 to 17½ seers, and gram 13½ seers.

F In the interior the prices range as follow :—Wheat 10 to 16 seers, barley 14 to 21 seers, best rice 7½ to 16 seers, common rice 13 to 19 seers, and gram 10 to 13 seers.

G In the interior the prices range as follow :—Wheat 6 to 8 seers, best rice 7 to 17 seers, common rice 16 to 18 seers, and gram 8 to 23 seers.

mentioned Districts of Bengal for the Fortnight ending 15th March 1880.

THE SEER OF 80 TOLAH.

GRASS MILLETS— CHOLU, JOWAR.			LESSER MILLETS— RASI OR MURWA AND OHENNA.			MAIZE OR INDIAN- CORN.			GRAM.			FIREWOOD.			SALT.			DISTRICTS.		
Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.			
BENGAL.																				
Western Districts.																				
Ch. S.	Ch. S.	Ch. S.	Ch. S.	Ch. S.	Ch. S.	Ch. S.	Ch. S.	Ch. S.	Ch. S.	Ch. S.	Ch. S.	Ch. S.	Ch. S.	Ch. S.	Ch. S.	Ch. S.	Ch. S.			
...	12 0	12 4	10 4	80 0	80 0	100 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	Burdwan.		
...	32 0	28 0	31 0	12 0	11 8	10 8	360 0	360 0	400 0	9 0	9 0	9 0	Bankoora.		
...	16 0	11 0	9 0	...	200 0	180 0	9 0	9 0	9 0	Beerbhoom.		
...	11 0	10 0	9 8	160 0	160 0	160 0	9 0	9 0	9 0	Midnapore.		
...	12 0	12 0	10 0	100 0	120 0	120 0	9 0	9 0	9 0	Hooghly.		
...	12 0	12 0	10 8	80 0	90 0	100 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	Howrah.		
Central Districts.																				
80 0	17 8	12 8	...	...	...	16 0	15 4	17 10	16 0	13 5	11 8	80 0	90 0	64 0	10 0	10 0	8 0	Calcutta.
...	13 5	12 12	10 8	80 0	90 0	80 0	9 0	9 6	8 12	24-Pergunnahs.		
...	13 5	13 5	10 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	9 11	9 11	9 6	Nuddes.		
...	13 0	11 8	9 0	110 0	110 0	110 0	9 0	9 0	8 0	Jessore.		
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...	13 8	12 12	7 8	240 0	240 0	{ 200 0 to 240 0 }			0 0	9 0	9 0	Rajshahya.
...	9 0	9 0	8 0	120 0	120 0	100 0	8 12	8 12	7 14	Rangpore.		
...	9 15	9 12	6 0	67 8	67 8	67 8	8 4	8 10	9 4	Bogra.		
...	10 8	10 0	9 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	9 0	9 0	8 0	Pubna.		
...	6 0	8 0	10 0	17 0	18 0	14 0	6 0	6 0	6 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	5 0	4 8	5 0	Darjeeling.		
...	8 0	8 0	7 5	64 0	64 0	64 0	8 0	8 0	7 5	Jalpigotee.		
Eastern Districts.																				
...	12 4	12 12	10 0	91 8	91 8	91 4	8 14	9 6	9 0	Dacca.		
...	10 0	10 0	8 0	...	...	...	9 0	9 0	9 0	Furzedpore.		
...	10 0	10 0	9 8	100 0	100 0	120 0	8 8	8 8	8 8	Backergunge.		
...	11 0	10 8	9 0	...	...	...	8 12	8 12	9 0	Mymensingh.		

H In the interior the prices range as follow:—Wheat 10 to 11½ seers, barley (in Jungypore) 17 seers, best rice 11 to 17 seers, common rice 16 to 18 seers, bulrush millet (in Jungypore) 24 seers, and gram 11½ to 14 seers.

I In Rajshahya the prices are:—Wheat 10 seers, best rice 14½ seers, common rice 16 seers, and gram 10 seers.

J In Natona the prices are:—Wheat 12 seers, best rice 8½ seers, common rice 14½ seers, and gram 10½ seers.

K In the interior the prices range as follow:—Wheat 11½ to 16 seers, best rice 8½ to 16 seers, common rice 12 to 20 seers, and gram 7½ to 8 seers.

L In Serampore the prices are:—Wheat 14½ seers, best rice 9 seers, common rice 10 seers, and gram 10 seers.

M In the interior the prices range as follow:—Best rice 5 to 13 seers, common rice 15 to 20 seers, lesser millets (in Kurseong) 12 seers, maize or Indian-corn (in Kurseong) 13 seers, and gram 6 to 7 seers.

N In the interior the prices range as follow:—Wheat 8 seers, best rice 10 to 16 seers, common rice 13 to 20½ seers, and gram 6½ to 9 seers.

O In the interior the prices range as follow:—Best rice 13 to 18½ seers, common rice 19 to 23 seers, and gram 12½ to 16 seers.

P In the interior the prices range as follow:—Wheat (in Goalundo) 12 seers, barley (in Goalundo) 18 seers, best rice 13 to 16 seers, common rice 17 to 20 seers, and gram (in Goalundo) 9 seers.

Q In the interior the prices range as follow:—Best rice 12 to 16 seers, common rice 14 to 17 seers, and gram 8 seers.

R In the interior the prices range as follow:—Wheat 10 to 16 seers, best rice 5 to 25 seers, common rice 18 to 20 seers, and gram 8 to 12 seers.

RETAIL PRICES-CURRENT of Food-grains, Firewood, and Salt in the under.

Number.		DISTRICTS.	QUANTITIES PER RUPEE BY																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																	
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21	Chittagong

• In the interior the price of common rice varies from 17½ to 25½ seers per rupee.

S In the interior the prices range as follows:—Best rice 16 to 20 seers, and common rice 16 to 22 seers.

T In the interior the prices range as follows:—Best rice 14½ to 27 seers, and common rice 18 to 31 seers.

U In the interior the prices range as follows:—Wheat 12½ to 13 seers, barley (in Jehanabad) 27½ seers, best rice (in Jehanabad) 9 seers, common rice 17½ to 20 seers, lesser millets (in Nowada) 28 seers, and gram 16 to 17½ seers.

V In the interior the prices range as follows:—Wheat 14 to 14½ seers, barley 22 to 25 seers, best rice 10 to 18 seers, common rice 17 to 19½ seers, bulrush millet (in Buxar) 26 seers, great millet 22 to 26 seers, lesser millets 21 to 24 seers, maize or Indian-corn 22 to 24 seers, and gram 16½ to 17 seers.

W In the interior the prices range as follows:—Wheat 13 to 14 seers, barley 22½ to 25 seers, best rice 10 to 18 seers, common rice 16½ to 19 seers, maize 20 to 26 seers, Indian-corn 22 to 25 seers, and gram 18 seers.

X In the interior the prices range as follows:—Wheat 12 to 15 seers, barley 26 to 30 seers, best rice 10 to 11½ seers, common rice 13½ to 16½ seers, maize or Indian-corn 17½ to 20½ seers, and gram 16 to 20 seers.

Y In the interior the prices range as follows:—Wheat 13 to 16 seers, barley 28 to 32 seers, best rice 12½ to 19 seers, common rice 17 to 33½ seers, maize or Indian-corn 20 to 28 seers, and gram 16 to 20 seers.

mentioned Districts of Bengal for the Fortnight ending 15th March 1880.—(Contd.)

THE SEER OF NO TOLAH.

GREAT MILLET— CHOLU, JOWAR.				LESSER MILLETS— RASI OR MURWA AND CHRENA.				MAIZE OR INDIAN CORN.				GRAM.				FIREWOOD.				SALT.				DISTRICTS
Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.		Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.		Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.		Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.		Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.		Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.		
Eastern Districts.—(Contd.)																								
8.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	
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- 2 In the interior the prices range as follow:—Wheat 13½ to 14 seers, barley 22 seers, best rice 8½ to 15½ seers, common rice 18 to 18½ seers, great millet 20 to 22 seers, lesser millets 28½ to 28 seers, maize or Indian-corn 20 to 20 seers, and gram 15 to 18½ seers.
- 21 In the interior the prices range as follow:—Wheat 12½ to 15 seers, best rice 16 to 18 seers, common rice 18 to 20 seers, lesser millets (in Middlepore) 24 seers, maize or Indian-corn (in Banka) 20 seers, and gram (in Banka) 12½ seers.
- 22 In the interior the prices range as follow:—Wheat 11 to 15 seers, barley 16 to 28 seers, best rice 15½ to 18 seers, common rice 18 to 20½ seers, and gram 8 to 15 seers.
- 23 In the interior the prices range as follow:—Wheat 11 to 13½ seers, best rice 16 to 23 seers, common rice 20 to 25 seers, maize or Indian-corn 22½ to 25 seers, and gram 12 to 13 seers.
- 24 In the interior the prices range as follow:—Wheat 12½ to 13 seers, barley (in Chuttra) 32½ seers, best rice (in Chuttra) 14 seers, common rice 21 to 22 seers, lesser millets (in Khuruckdihia) 40 seers, maize or Indian-corn (in Khuruckdihia) 30 seers, and gram 15 to 17 seers.
- 25 In the interior the prices range as follow:—Wheat 12½ to 15 seers, barley (in Daltongunge) 22 seers, best rice 20½ to 22 seers, common rice 21½ to 31 seers, mohwa (in Daltongunge) 27 seers, lesser millets 40½ to 50 seers, maize or Indian-corn (in Daltongunge) 37½ seers, and gram 15 to 20½ seers.
- 26 In the interior the prices range as follow:—Wheat 8 to 10 seers, barley (in Govindpore) 20 seers, best rice 20 to 24 seers, common rice 22 to 26 seers, bulrush millet 15 to 30 seers, great millet 15 to 30 seers, lesser millets 32 to 34 seers, maize or Indian-corn 28 to 40 seers, and gram 8 to 13 seers.

Published for general information.

A. MACKENZIE,
Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

WHOLESALE PRICES-CURRENT of Food-grains, Firewood, and Salt in

PRICES PER MAUND

Number.	MARKS	WHEAT			BARLEY			RICE, BEST SORT			RICE, COMMON			BELURU MILLER CUMBOO, BAJRA		
		Present return.	Next preceding return	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return	Corresponding return of last year.
		R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.
1	Calcutta	3 8 0	3 5 0	3 15 0	2 4 0	3 0 0	2 14 0	6 0 0	6 0 0	6 15 0	6 3 0	6 3 0	6 10 3	...	...	...
2	Seragunge	2 10 0	2 8 0	3 11 0	...	...	...	4 0 0	4 8 0	5 8 0	2 2 0	2 4 0	8 8 0	...	...	...
3	Dacca	3 12 0	3 10 0	3 10 0	1 0 0	2 8 0	...	2 2 0	2 2 0	3 7 0	1 13 0	1 15 0	3 2 0	2 8 0	2 8 0	2 7 0
4	Narainchong	...	...	...	...	...	...	2 1 0	2 2 0	3 5 0	1 13 0	2 0 0	3 2 0	...	...	...
5	Chittagong	...	...	...	...	...	...	2 2 0	2 14 0	3 8 0	2 0 0	2 4 0	2 12 0	...	...	...
6	Patna	2 3 0	2 8 0	3 5 5	1 9 0	1 9 0	2 1 0	2 15 0	2 15 0	6 4 0	2 3 0	2 3 0	2 4 9	...	...	...
7	Balasore	6 0 3	12 0 3	14 0 0	...	...	...	2 8 0	3 2 0	2 12 0	2 0 0	2 8 0	2 4 0	...	...	...
8	Pooree	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2 3 0	2 3 0	2 5 0	...	...	...
9	Cuttack	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	...	...	...	2 14 0	2 10 0	3 4 0	2 1 0	1 14 0	2 0 0	...	...	...

CALCUTTA,

The 23rd March 1880.

the undermentioned *Marts* of Bengal for the Fortnight ending 15th March 1880.

OF 40 REERs.

GRAT MILLET— CHOLU, JOWAR.			LESSER MILLET— RAGI OR MURWA AND CHERNA.			MAIZE OR INDIAN- CORN.			GRAM.			FIREWOOD			JALY			MARTS.
Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	
R.A.P.	R.A.P.	R.A.P.	R.A.P.	R.A.P.	R.A.P.	R.A.P.	R.A.P.	R.A.P.	R.A.P.	R.A.P.	R.A.P.	R.A.P.	R.A.P.	R.A.P.	R.A.P.	R.A.P.	R.A.P.	
3 0 02	4 0 2	12 0				2 8 02	10 02	12 02	8 0 3	0 03	11 0 0	6 30	6 30	9 0 1	0 04	0 04	8 0	Calcutta.
...							3 12 0	3 12	05 4 0				1 0 04	0 04	8 0	Serajunge.
...							3 20 3	1 03	15 0 0	6 00	7 00	6 0 1	0 04	0 04	4 0	Dacca.
...							3 40 3	3 01	20 0 8	00 8 00	10 0 1	3 04	0 04	4 0		Saraingunge.
...																Chittagong.
...				1 13 0	1 13 0	1 6 02	3 02	3 02	4 0 0	4 90	4 90	4 9 5	0 05	0 05	0 0	Patna.
...							4 60 5	0 01	12 0 0	5 30	5 00	4 6 1	0 05	0 04	13 0	Balasore.
...																Pooree.
...	2 2 02	0 02	6 0				2 40 2	4 02	0 0 0	4 0 0	4 00	3 0 3	0 03	0 03	3 30	Cuttack.

Published for general information.

A. MACKENZIE,
Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

**Results of the Meteorological Observations taken at the Alipore Observatory from
14th to 20th March 1880.**

Month.	Date.	Maximum in sun.	Mean pressure barometer at 33° Fah.	TEMPERATURE.				HYGROMETRY.				Prevailing direction.	Miles recorded.	Rain.	WEATHER.
				Mean.	Maximum.	Range.	Minimum.	Mean wet bulb.	Vapour tension.	Dew point.	Humidity.				
1880.		☉	Inches	L	☉	☉	☉	☉	Inches	°	%			Inches	
March	14th	148°6	29.763	79.8	89.2	10.6	72.0	76.4	0.820	73.6	82	Chiefly S and S by W	162	Nil	Day cloudy, night chiefly clear, and w.
"	15th	153°2	725	81.4	95.2	23.3	71.9	73.8	.736	70.1	71	Chiefly S and S S W	160	"	Clear and w.
"	16th	151°7	.673	81.5	91.0	17.4	73.6	76.2	.835	73.6	79	Chiefly S and S by W	235	"	Clear and w.
"	17th	146°8	.674	82.2	91.5	15.5	76.0	77.1	.804	71.8	79	Chiefly S and S by W	351	"	Chiefly cloudy, w and o.
"	18th	147°4	.698	83.1	91.7	14.0	77.7	77.2	.850	71.3	76	Chiefly S by W and S	302	"	Chiefly cloudy, o and w.
"	19th	151°8	.708	82.2	88.4	11.4	77.0	70.7	.849	74.3	78	Chiefly South	203	"	Chiefly cloudy, o, t and dr.
"	20th	146°9	.647	81.4	90.5	13.4	77.1	77.0	.808	74.7	81	Chiefly S, and S by W	272	"	Cloudy.

The mean pressure of the seven days ...

The average pressure of the corresponding period for 24 years, S. G. Office ...

Inches.

29.697

The mean temperature of the seven days ...

The average temperature of the corresponding period for 24 years, S. G. Office ...

☉

81.7

The extreme variation of temperature during the seven days ...

80.8

The maximum temperature during the seven days ...

23.3

95.2

%

The mean relative humidity during the seven days ...

78

The average relative humidity of the corresponding period for 24 years, S. G. Office ...

64

Inches.

The total fall of rain from 14th to 20th March 1880 ...

Nil.

The average fall of the corresponding period for 24 years, S. G. Office ...

0.18

The total fall from 1st January to 20th March 1880 ...

2.96

The average fall of the corresponding period for 24 years, S. G. Office ...

2.46

The mean pressure, temperature, &c., are deduced from the observations made at 6h, 10h, 16h and 22h, and from the traces of the barograph and thermograph.

The maximum and minimum temperatures are obtained from self-registering thermometers. All the thermometers are verified, and the readings have been corrected to a standard constructed and verified at the Kew Observatory. They are exposed under a thatched shed open at the sides, and are suspended four feet above the ground.

The barometer readings are corrected approximately to those of the standard Newman's No. 86, formerly at the Surveyor-General's Office.

The hygrometric elements are obtained from Tables III, IV, and V of the official tables computed in the Meteorological Office, and based on Regnault's modifications of August's formula.

The direction and movement of the wind are taken from the trace of a Beckley's anemograph.

The mouth of the rain-gauge is one foot above the ground.

w dew, o overcast, / strong wind, t thunder, lr sheet lightning.

METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE, INDIA,

The 23rd March 1880.

JOHN ELIOT,

For Meteorological Reporter to the Government of India.

Reports of Fluctuation of Traffic on the Eastern Bengal Railway for the four weeks ending the 28th February 1880.

Report on Goods Traffic for the four weeks ending the 28th February 1880.

EASTERN BENGAL RAILWAY COMPANY, TRAFFIC SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE, SEALDAH TERMINUS.

Dated Calcutta, the 10th March 1880.

From—The Traffic Superintendent, Eastern Bengal Railway.

To—The Agent, Eastern Bengal Railway, Sealdah.

The total quantity of goods carried during the above period was 6,10,216 maunds. This, as compared with the corresponding period of 1879, shows an increase of 1,18,869 maunds, which is chiefly in grain, including rice, jute in drums and bales, piece-goods, foreign railway material, salt, sugar, and miscellaneous goods.

Increases.

Grain, including rice ... Mds. 49,737

As anticipated in my last month's report, this produce still continues on the increase, and is attributable to the abundant harvest of 1879, the produce of which is now coming into the market.

Jute in drums ... Mds. 12,326

Do. bales ... " 3,974

This is attributable to high prices at which this staple is selling in the market, and the anxiety on the part of sellers to get down the remainder of their stock to Calcutta.

Piece-goods, European ... Mds. 5,521

This is in a measure owing to the dealers in this class of goods adopting the railway as a mode of transit to districts touched by the Northern Bengal State Railway, instead of their finding their way by the old route before the railway was opened.

Foreign railway material ... Mds. 3,649

This is accounted for by the material going forward for the Darjeeling steam tramway and Northern Bengal State Railway.

Salt ... Mds. 34,906

This increase is very satisfactory, and is attributable in a great measure to the facilities we offer to salt merchants on the Port Commissioners' tramway, giving them sacks and low rate of freight. I would, however, invite attention to my remarks on this traffic in last month's report.

Sugar ... Mds. 6,400

The cause of this increase may be attributed to the season setting in earlier than last year, and to the Coaspore mills purchasing up-country for direct delivery from our wagons on the tramway, which was not the case other years.

Miscellaneous goods ... Mds. 7,474

This increase is attributable to the general improvement in trade and goods of all descriptions for stations touched by the Northern Bengal State Railway, which formerly found their way by other routes, now going by railway from stations on the Port Commissioners' tramway and our other Calcutta termini.

Decreases.

The decreases during the period under reference are, I am happy to say, so very trifling as to call for no special remarks. I attach the usual statement of increases and decreases.

EASTERN BENGAL RAILWAY.

Statement showing Increases and Decreases in Maundage of Staples carried over the line for the four weeks ending the 28th February 1880, as compared with the corresponding period of 1879.

DESCRIPTION.	Down.	Down.	Up.	Up.	Total.	Total.	Increase.	Decrease.
	1879.	1880.	1879.	1880.	1879.	1880.		
Alc, beer, wine, &c. ...	...	...	1,702	1,945	1,702	1,945	243	...
Cotton, bundles of ...	77	26	19	322	96	348	252	...
Do., bales of ...	1,154	343	252	15	1,406	358	...	1,048
Grain, including rice ...	39,587	93,497	7,367	3,194	46,954	96,691	49,737	...
Gunny, bundles of ...	6,592	3,927	1,611	2,775	8,203	6,402	...	1,811
Do., bales of ...	4,380	3,415	...	...	4,380	3,415	...	971
Hides, bundles of ...	11,972	14,247	144	278	12,116	14,525	2,407	...
Do., bales of ...	2,712	538	...	...	2,712	538	...	2,174
Jute, drums of ...	1,70,405	1,88,959	389	181	1,70,794	1,89,140	12,326	...
Do., bales of ...	27,795	30,669	...	500	27,795	31,169	3,374	...
Piece-goods, European ...	...	59	24,034	39,496	24,034	29,555	5,521	...
Ditto, Indian ...	81	24	...	...	81	24	...	57
Railway material, foreign ...	...	...	6,109	9,758	6,109	9,758	3,649	...
Salt ...	...	...	32,792	67,071	32,792	67,071	34,906	...
Seeds ...	13,104	9,690	1,945	5,865	14,908	15,555	647	...
Sugar ...	16,689	26,373	5,620	3,243	22,315	29,616	6,400	...
Tea, European ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Do., Indian ...	843	4	5	21	848	25	...	823
Tobacco, bundles of ...	10,820	10,405	140	360	10,960	10,765	...	195
Do., bales of ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Turmeric ...	2,934	229	154	20	3,088	249	...	2,839
Twist, European ...	...	...	3,970	4,891	3,970	4,891	921	...
Do., Indian ...	179	1,138	...	...	179	1,138	959	...
Miscellaneous goods ...	16,239	11,871	73,747	85,689	89,926	97,400	7,474	...
Total ...	3,31,569	3,94,114	1,69,838	2,16,102	4,91,347	6,10,216	1,28,816	9,947
							4,91,347	9,947
Increase ...							1,18,869	1,18,869

Report on the Fluctuations in Traffic on the Northern Bengal State Railway for the month of February 1880.

GENERAL REMARKS.

Owing to the unprecedented high rates ruling in the Calcutta market for jute during the month, orders to purchase were given to all local agents along the line. In spite of this, however, the despatches (although comparing favorably with the corresponding month last year) have fallen off considerably as compared with the three previous months.

This is accounted for by the fact that last season's crop is becoming scarce, and can only now be obtained remote from the line.

Increases.

Food-grain ... Mds. 5,822
71,695 maunds have been carried under this head during the month; a demand for the cheap descriptions of rice for shipment to London and Bombay accounts for the increase.

Jute ... Mds. 26,801
This staple has, during the month under review, touched a price in the Calcutta market that has never before been reached.

This fully accounts for the increase, which would have been larger had the stuff been obtainable.

Piece-goods ... Mds. 232
This may be looked upon as a mere trade fluctuation. In February 1879, 8,973 maunds were carried under this head, and during the month under review 9,205 maunds.

Salt ... Mds. 25,013

The traffic in this article is under the present favorable rates developing rapidly.

The weight lifted during the month is the largest yet brought to the line.

Tobacco ... Mds. 10,477

Parcels of the cheaper descriptions of the new season's crop are beginning to find their way to the port by the line which last year (owing to the higher rate of freight ruling) were no doubt sent by boat.

All other goods ... Mds. 3,214

The total weight carried under this head during the month stands at 39,821 maunds, which, although 3,214 maunds more than was carried in February 1879, is a falling off as compared with last month's traffic.

Decreases.

Ale ... Mds. 262

The remarks made in the last month's report fully explain this decrease.

Ginger ... Mds. 664

This article is literally unobtainable in the Calcutta market. The market reports do not even quote a price for it.

Gunny-bags ... Mds. 850

Although a decrease is shown under this head as compared with the corresponding period of last year, a great spur has really taken place during the month.

In January we carried 3,419 maunds, whereas this month 5,749 maunds were lifted.

Railway material ... Mds. 8,767

A slight cessation in the despatch of tramway material will account for this.

Sugar ... Mds. 447

A falling off in the demand for local consumption accounts for this decrease.

Tea ... Mds. 229

The despatches under this head are the lag-ends of last season's crops.

Statement showing Increases and Decreases in maundage of Staples carried over the Line during the month of February 1880.

STAPLES.	1879.		1880.		Total for 1879.	Total for 1880.	Increase in 1880.	Decrease in 1880.
	Up.	Down.	Up.	Down.				
Ale	1,497	9	1,244		1,506	1,244		262
Food-grain	5,234	60,609	4,908	66,727	65,843	71,695	5,852	
Ginger	8	1,145		489	1,153	489		664
Gunny-bags	900	5,730	1,754	5,895	6,599	5,749		850
Jute		23,791		50,684	23,793	50,684	26,801	
Piece-goods	8,756	217	9,190	45	8,973	9,205	232	
Railway material	36,608	2,438	45,257	6,422	38,446	49,779		8,767
Salt	8,792		33,835		8,792	33,835	25,043	
Sugar	2,167		1,720		2,167	1,720		447
Tea	2	311		84	313	84		229
Tobacco	241	1,215	222	11,709	1,464	11,931	10,477	
All other goods	32,352	4,253	33,965	5,866	36,607	39,921	3,314	
Total	1,15,954	99,720	1,30,073	1,40,061	2,15,676	2,76,146	60,469	

Saidpur, the 18th March 1880.

G. M. DEURY, Traffic Superintendent.

Weekly Return of Traffic Receipts on Indian Railways.

EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 13th March 1880 on 1,507½ miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.				MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.				TOTAL TRAFFIC RECEIPTS.			TRAIN MILES RUN.		
	No. of passengers.	Coaching receipts.				Weight carried.	Receipts.				Total.	Coach.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs.	A.	P.	£	s.	d.	Mds.	Rs.	A.	P.	£	s.	d.
Total traffic for the week...	169,050	2,44,253	13	0	22,380	10	10	14,08,510	6,26,401	0	0	57,428	6	11
Or per mile of railway	...	162	0	10	14	17	1	...	415	10	5	38	2	0
For previous 9 weeks of half-year	1,477,276	22,59,377	11	3	207,100	12	6	1,44,72,214	60,87,015	3	3	557,978	7	10
Total for 10 weeks	1,646,326	25,03,630	9	0	229,480	0	4	1,58,80,725	67,13,506	3	3	615,401	14	0
COMPARISON.														
Total for corresponding week of previous year	153,369	2,50,072	5	1	22,023	6	0	14,03,190	5,21,270	15	0	67,793	3	4
Per mile of railway, corresponding week of previous year	...	165	14	7	15	4	2	...	345	13	6	31	14	1
Total to corresponding date of previous year	1,682,680	25,36,640	0	7	232,325	6	0	1,72,01,084	67,20,229	12	10	616,570	4	0

EASTERN BENGAL RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 6th March 1880 on 171½ miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.						MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.						Total receipts.
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.			Weight carried.	Receipts.							
		Rs.	A. P.	£ s. d.		Mds. s.	Rs.	A. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.			
Total traffic for the week	40,059	40,955	0 0	3,754 4 2	1,77,700 0	32,444 0 0	2,992 7 4	6,746 11 6					
Or per mile of railway	232	238 7 4	21 17 2	1,034 27	190 1 1	17 8 5	39 3 7						
For previous 9 weeks of half-year	355,566	3,35,046 11 8	30,767 12 3	17,95,324 24	3,87,775 11 2	30,962 15 6	61,730 7 9						
Total for 10 weeks	395,625	3,76,001 11 8	34,521 16 5	19,74,037 24	3,70,110 11 2	33,965 2 10	62,478 19 3						
COMPARISON.													
Total for corresponding week of previous year	43,466	38,011 1 4	3,484 7 1	1,54,024 27	27,888 10 11	2,556 9 2	6,040 16 3						
Per mile of railway, corresponding week of previous year	253	221 5 1	20 5 9	902 1	162 6 1	14 17 8	33 2 5						
Total to corresponding date of previous year	401,402	3,68,080 0 0	33,610 10 1	15,67,092 24	2,94,594 11 0	27,004 10 2	60,618 0 3						

EASTERN BENGAL RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 13th March 1880 on 171½ miles open.

	Rs. A. P.			£ s. d.			Mds. s.	Rs. A. P.			£ s. d.			Mds. s.
Total traffic for the week	36,000	33,844	0 0	3,102	11 0		1,05,349 0	30,201	0 0	2,768	8 6		5,970	19 4
Or per mile of railway	210	197	1 0	18	1 3		1,137 16	175	13 6	16	3 5		34	3 5
For previous 10 weeks of half-year	395,625	3,76,601	11 8	34,521	16 5		19,74,037 24	3,70,119	11 2	33,955	2 10		60,478	19 3
Total for 11 weeks	431,625	4,10,447	11 8	37,024	7 5		21,69,386 24	4,00,630	11 2	36,723	11 4		74,347	13 9
COMPARISON.														
Total for corresponding week of previous year	43,331	38,600	4 10	3,544	13 9		1,42,270 10	22,737	0 4	2,044	4 6		5,608	18 3
Per mile of railway cor. week of previous year	254	225	2 4	20	12 10		828 14	132	4 2	12	3 5		32	15 0
Total to corresponding date of previous year	444,936	4,05,320	4 10	37,155	3 10		17,09,362 34	3,17,331	11 4	29,038	24 4		60,245	18 6

BENGAL PROVINCIAL RAILWAYS.

Weekly Statement of Traffic Receipts.

No. 6.

Latest return received.	Name of Railway.	Length open.	RECEIPTS FOR WEEK ENDING		TOTAL RECEIPTS FROM 1ST JANUARY		Total increase in 1880.	Total decrease in 1880.
			15th February 1879.	14th February 1880.	To 15th February 1879.	To 14th February 1880.		
			Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.		
1880.		Miles.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs.
14th February ...	Northern Bengal ..	230	25,490 0 0	30,088 0 0	1,32,083 0 0	3,95,404 0 0	63,379 0 0	...
21st ditto ...	Tirhoot ..	82	9,851 0 0	10,383 0 0	64,271 0 0	62,483 0 0	...	...
6th March ...	Calcutta and South-Eastern ...	28	2,021 0 0	2,022 0 0	17,441 0 0	17,337 0 0	...	...
14th ditto ...	Nalhati ..	27	1,920 0 0	1,924 0 0	11,443 0 0	11,390 0 0	...	...
28th February ...	Patna and Gya ...	57	...	8,072 0 0	...	56,716 0 0	58,716 0 0	...
	Total ...	424	39,721 0 0	52,760 0 0	2,25,140 0 0	3,43,300 0 0	1,20,000 0 0	1,935



SUPPLEMENT TO The Calcutta Gazette.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31, 1880.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

Non-Subscribers to the GAZETTE may receive the SUPPLEMENT separately on payment of Six Rupees per annum if delivered in Calcutta, or Twelve Rupees if sent by Post.

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Extract from the Proceedings of the Council of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal for the purpose of making Laws and Regulations.

Saturday, the 20th March 1880.

Present:

HIS HONOR THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR OF BENGAL, *presiding*,
 The Hon'ble G. C. PAUL, C.I.E., *Advocate-General*,
 The Hon'ble C. T. BUCKLAND,
 The Hon'ble H. L. DAMPIER,
 The Hon'ble A. MACKENZIE,
 The Hon'ble J. O'KINEALY,
 The Hon'ble SYUD AMEER HOSSEIN.
 The Hon'ble KRISTODAS PAL, RAI BAHADOOR, C.I.E.,
 The Hon'ble J. B. KNIGHT, C.I.E.,
 The Hon'ble C. D. FIELD, LL.D.,
 The Hon'ble PEARY MOHUN MOOKERJEE,
 and
 The Hon'ble F. PRESTAGE.

ROAD AND PROVINCIAL PUBLIC WORKS CESSES.

THE HON'BLE MR. DAMPIER in presenting the report of the Select Committee on the Bill to amend and consolidate the law relating to local rating for the construction charges and maintenance of roads and other means of communication and of provincial public works, said that the rules of the

Council required that before the report of the Select Committee on any Bill could be taken into consideration, it should be in the hands of members for seven days. He was not in a position therefore to ask the Council to consider the report of the Committee, and the amended Bill, as they had only been in the hands of members two days. But he would now make his exposition of what the Select Committee had done, so that the Council might be able at the next meeting to enter into a discussion upon the detailed provisions of the Bill. The Bill was prepared by the Board of Revenue and published by the Government in November last, and the result had been that it had been most carefully considered, not only on that occasion, but in its later stages by Commissioners of Divisions and Collectors, and also many Deputy Collectors who had experience in the working of the existing Acts, and who had made many valuable suggestions. The Select Committee had taken equal pains in the matter and had re-cast the Bill altogether. From a remark he had just made, his Hon'ble friend on his left, the Advocate-General, seemed to take alarm at the length of the Bill, perhaps he was afraid that it was "*monstrum horrendum informe ingens cui lumen ademptum*." If so, MR. DAMPIER hoped that a closer examination of the Bill would not confirm this opinion, at any rate not in all its particulars. That the Bill was "a monster" and somewhat "alarming by its dimensions" he must admit, but he hoped that for this very reason the Committee had succeeded in saving it from the other two characteristics of the Cyclops, that it is not "a shapeless map" but a symmetrical whole, not "obscure and without light" but perspicuous and easily intelligible.

The table of contents attached to the Bill showed the arrangement of it into parts, chapters, and sections. The report of the Select Committee drew attention very briefly to the numerous changes that had been made in the Bill since it was read in Council. MR. DAMPIER would now only notice such of them as were substantial and material, passing over the mere formal changes.

To the definition of "cultivating ryot" in section 4, the Committee had merely added an explanation that when rent was payable in kind its money value should be ascertained by taking the annual value of the landlord's share of the crop calculated on an average of three years next preceding: that was really the only material change made among the definitions in the Bill; the other changes were verbal.

In Part I, relating to the imposition and application of the cesses, the section now standing as 8 provided that no railway or tramway, of which the dividend was guaranteed by the Secretary of State or the Governor-General in Council, should be liable to road cess or public works cess without the previous consent of Government. To that the Select Committee had added any railway or tramway guaranteed by the Lieutenant-Governor, in order to meet present circumstances, such as those of the Darjeeling tramway.

Then in section 7 the Committee had merely affirmed and admitted principle. The law as it stood did not require, nor was the Council in a position to legislate, that the Government should pay road cess out of other public revenues derived from estates which were public property. The Government had indeed hitherto consented to a special arrangement under which the amount of road cess which would have been payable on account of Government estates, if they had been private property, is paid over to the District Road Committees immediately it falls due, and in anticipation of the realization of the cess from the tenants; thus the inevitable loss which results from some of the amount due from the tenants being irrecoverable, does not fall on the District Committee; but neither is it a direct charge on the Government revenues. The whole arrangement is intricate and technical; but whatever is done by the Government is voluntary and in the interests of the local Committees; no liability can be imposed on the Government in this respect by law. Section 7 accordingly provided that the Lieutenant-Governor should not be required by law to pay from the public revenues any sum as road cess in excess of such sums as might have been paid as such cess to the Collector of the district by persons liable to pay the same: the Government had only to hand over to the Road Cess Committee what the Collector might collect.

In section 10 a somewhat material alteration was made. According to the Provincial Public Works Cess Act II of 1877, the publication of the accounts

of the public works cess proceeds was required to be made annually in the *Calcutta Gazette*. Now, as a matter of practice, Mr. DAMPIER was informed that no such accounts had been published; and not only so, but it was quite impossible from the way in which the proceeds of the public works cess were mixed up with other sources of revenue, to keep such distinct accounts, and therefore the Select Committee had omitted one requirement of the old law that such accounts should be published.

Part II of the Bill referred to the mode of assessment. Sections 13 and 15 referred to re-valuations. Under the existing law a re-valuation remained in force for five years, and longer until a new valuation was ordered. There was nothing more specific in the law. The Select Committee had in sections 13 and 15 provided that the Lieutenant-Governor might order a re-valuation either of a whole district or a part of district or of selected estates only in a district. Then section 13A would be acceptable to landholders; under it even though the Lieutenant-Governor might not think it necessary to order a re-valuation of a district, any one who wished to have his estate re-valued might come in after the expiration of five years and claim a re-valuation: those whose estates were deteriorated for any reason would have a right to ask for a re-valuation.

In another section, later on, the Select Committee had given a discretionary power to the Collector, which the existing law did not give, of reducing the valuation during the currency of a five years' valuation. When any one applied for such re-valuation, if for instance half the estate had been washed away, or if the Collector saw any other good reason, he might reduce the valuation. But section 13A left the Collector no option, he must re-value an estate after the expiry of the five years' valuation, if the holder of the estate applied for such valuation.

Under the existing Act when there was a valuation or re-valuation, the Collector issued a notice, and landholders were obliged to fill in the returns for valuation within three months. Many proposals were made on this point; some thought one month was sufficient for the filling in of returns, others would not shorten the period already allowed. The Committee had steered a middle course. There was force in the objection which was made that if three months were allowed after the notices were issued, the Collector's establishment had to sit still for these three months till the returns began to come in. The Committee had provided that if the lands in respect of which returns were required were revenue-paying estates or rent-paying tenures, or the annual revenue or rent of which did not exceed Rs. 500, the returns should be made within six weeks of the service of notice; for all larger estates and tenures, the longer period of three months was continued. A similar distinction was made in the case of revenue-free estates and tenures. The returns of the smaller estates and tenures having been sent in within six weeks, the Collector's establishment would be occupied on them till the other returns came in.

Section 18 dealt with the question of fines. The Committee had not altered the system of daily fines, but they had adopted the provisions of the general law relating to revenue fines. The Collector might go on levying daily fines until the amount reached Rs. 500, but he could not realize anything more without the special permission of the Commissioner of Division.

In section 19 the Committee had made very material alterations, but they were merely in procedure. According to the old law if a landholder failed to lodge his returns within the time required, he became thereby disqualified from recovering rent on his estate. The Committee had provided as a means of enforcing that penalty, that the Collector should send notice to the Civil Court with a list of such defaulters, and that the Civil Court should take judicial notice of such list. In any rent suits which might be instituted before it, when a return was made by the defaulter, the Collector was required to send another notice, withdrawing the former prohibition. Also by the existing law the landholder was prohibited from recovering any higher rent than that which was entered in the return. It had been represented to the Committee that unintentional errors were frequently made in the returns, in which case this section acted with unnecessary harshness towards the landholders. The Committee had therefore provided that the person making the return might within six months from the submission of the return point out any omissions

and inaccuracies, and have them corrected so as to enable him to collect his rents according to the corrected return.

Section 24 and the followings sections related to summary valuations. Under the existing law the power of making summary valuations was not extended to revenue-free lands, however small the tenure or estate might be; the Select Committee in section 25 extended that power to revenue-free estates and rent-free tenures, and MR. DAMPIER believed the power would be found very useful.

Section 26 took the place of clause 2 of section 8 of the existing Act. Not unnaturally that clause has been represented to be unintelligible as it stood, and it had taken a whole column of explanations and illustrations to explain what had been its meaning.

By section 30 the valuation of tea, coffee, and cinchona plantations was fixed at Rs. 10 per acre, but the Select Committee had thought proper to vest the Board of Revenue with the discretion of prescribing a lower rate of valuation if sufficient cause was shown.

Section 34 consisted of two clauses one which he had mentioned providing for the reduction of the valuation during the currency of the five years' term; the other empowering the Collector to supply other omissions by assessing tenures and lands which for any reason had been overlooked, or which were not in existence when the valuation was made.

In section 37 the Select Committee had made a change in the proviso at the end, which would much facilitate the working. Under the existing law it was necessary annually to issue notices to every assessee telling him what amount of cess he would have to pay during the coming year. The Committee had altered that, and had provided that it would not be necessary to issue such individual notices, except when a change was to be made in the annual amount payable. Assessee might be credited with the amount of intelligence required to enable them to understand that they would have to pay this year what they paid last year, unless they heard to the contrary.

In section 44 the Select Committee provided that when an estate was divided by butwarrah, or a separate account was opened under Act XI of 1859, the liability for the payment of cess should become separate, just as was the liability for the payment of revenue.

Section 42 provided the penalty for not paying road cess to the Collector on the date on which it becomes due; this was a subject of much controversy and much consideration. As the Bill was introduced a penalty of 25 per cent was to be levied; the Select Committee had adopted simply the penalty of 12 per cent interest.

Section 42A was also a new one in the direction of relief to the tax-payer. It had been very much pressed upon the Committee that the joint and separate liability imposed by the Act was very hard upon co-parceners of estates; men whose names were jointly registered as proprietors of estates, and who had no privity with one another, were held legally liable for the shares of the cess which in all equity their co-parceners should pay. MR. DAMPIER had had the advantage of discussing this subject with Mr. Worsley, who was the apostle of separate accounts; he and those who agreed with him would like to have a separate account opened for every shareholder. Now, under Act XI, any proprietor whose share was not in dispute (and it must be observed that most disputes had been decided under the Land Registration Act) might ask for a separate account to be opened, which would in a great measure free him from the inconvenience of joint liability as to the payment both of the revenue and of the cesses. If shareholders really felt their joint liability so much, why did they not ask to have separate accounts opened under Act XI of 1859? So much for joint-sharers in revenue-paying estates.

But the case of revenue-free estates was different—estates which were registered in what was called the Collector's B Register of revenue-free lands. In such cases the estate or unit borne on the Collector's Register was often the entire area lying in scattered plots in one or more districts which had been given as a revenue-free grant to the original grantee. In the course of years, however, there being no joint liability for land revenue to act as a bond of union, the original holding became dismembered. A few acres situate in one village were sold off to A, and a few acres in another part of the district to B, and so on; eventually the parties in possession of one purchased portion did

not even know what other lands the tenure as originally created had comprised; much less did they know who were the present owners of such other lands. In such cases joint liability for cess doubtless pressed hard, and there was a real grievance to be remedied as far as it could be done. There was no option given under existing law to open separate accounts. At the same time, in the interests of the public, the right of enforcing such joint liability could not be given up *per saltum*. The Select Committee had therefore inserted section (42A) which would enable the Government to proceed tentatively. It provided that in any district in which the Lieutenant-Governor might specially order the provisions of this section to be extended, separate accounts might be opened in respect of the amount of cesses payable by any holder of a revenue-free estate.

Section 54 also was entirely for the relief of the cess-payer. This same shareholder, who felt it was hard for him to pay for his co-parceners, if he paid more than his own share, could, as the law now stood, only recover the excess by instituting a contribution suit. This section provided a more summary process for recorded proprietors and shareholders; any recorded proprietor might come in and pay, say Rs. 100, of which, say, Rs. 20 only was on account of his own share as a recorded proprietor, and the other Rs. 80 was on account of cess due by his co-sharers. The section provided that on paying the amount he might say to the Collector—"You are in a position to know that this amount has been paid in by me, and I call upon you to make a certificate and recover that money by the certificate procedure." The Select Committee provided that in such a case a certificate should be made by the Collector, and the person applying should be deemed to be the decree-holder, and the co-parceners for whom he had paid should be the judgment-debtors, all the necessary processes being issued at his cost.

Now, Mr. DAMPIER came to the most intricate and difficult part of the matter—the sections relating to lakhiraj lands—which had received the attention and consideration of all the members of the Select Committee, and had been cast and re-cast, and might still have to be amended. The chapter on this subject was headed "Valuation and assessment of lands held rent-free, and payment and recovery of cess in respect thereof." In the remarks which he was now about to make, he would use the term "landholder" as the person bound to pay the cess to Government; and "lakhirajdar" as the person who was bound to pay cess to the landholder. The Select Committee had provided that the landholder was bound to include in his return all rent-free lands contained in his estate or tenure, and on his so doing the Collector was to give public notice by beat of drum in every village in which any of those lands were situated, and to such notice was to be annexed a copy of the valuation of the rent-free lands so made by the landholder. The object was to give the lakhirajdar the opportunity of objecting to his land being too highly valued. To meet the case of the copy of the valuation roll annexed to the notice being blown away or torn down, another copy was to be deposited at the police station, registration office, or other Government office in the neighbourhood; and the lakhirajdars were required to make themselves acquainted with the amount at which the landholder had valued their lands. Then, if any objection was made within one month, the Collector would hear it, and either reduce the valuation or confirm it. So far as regards the valuation.

Then there was the assessment. How were lakhirajdars to be made aware of what they had to pay in each year? As soon as the rate of cess for any year was settled the zemindar had to take the same steps for making the exact amount payable known to the lakhirajdars as the Collector had had to take in order to make the valuation known; he had to issue notice by beat of *tom-tom*, affix notices, &c., showing the amounts due. Then as to the payment. The lakhiraj-holder was of course liable to pay to the landholder at the full rate of cess upon his profits like any other owner of land, but the landholder had only to pay one-half of the amount to the Collector. That was the compensation allowed to the landholder for the trouble, expense, and loss which he might incur in recovering what he had paid.

Then, after all these notices had been given to the lakhirajdar, if he did not pay in the amount of cess to the landholder on the due date, the landholder could recover the amount with a penalty of twice the amount. It was considered

desirable to give large remuneration as a *solatium* to them for being obliged, in the interests of the general public, to undertake the unpalatable duty of paying cess on account of these lands and recovering it from the holders.

Then followed some inevitably intricate sections. If the landholder had omitted to include any lakhiraj lands in his return, that is, if he should at the time of any future valuation by oversight or otherwise omit to include such lands, or if, as 99 out of 100 had hitherto done, he had omitted to include any such lands which he ought to have included in returns under the Act of 1871, the landholder might now come forward with a supplementary return to make up for that omission, and might pay up the cess due on such lands for the last three years, this being the period of limitation for recovery of the cess from the lakhirajdars. Then all the notices and processes already mentioned were to be issued and gone through for the purpose of making it certain as far as possible that the knowledge of his liability was really brought home to the lakhirajdar. Then, and not till after all these precautions had been taken, if the lakhirajdar failed to pay any future amount which might become payable, the landholder might recover from him a sum equal to five times the amount which the landholder had paid in respect of the lakhiraj lands. The Council would observe that five times the amount of cess at *half* rate which the landowners would have paid was precisely the same thing as the full amount of the cess normally payable by the lakhirajdar (*i.e.* the cess at full rates) with the penalty of twice that amount as imposed for default by section 47.

Such was the penalty imposed for failure to pay the cess in future, after all these precautionary measures had been taken to bring his liability home to the lakhirajdar. But it must be remembered that the lakhirajdar was actually liable to pay cess under the Act of 1871; he had only escaped owing to the difficulty of getting at him.

Although therefore the Bill did not impose the heavy penalty in respect of arrears accruing due for a period antecedent to the issue of the new proclamations and notices, it enabled the landholder to recover cess paid for such antecedent period with interest at 12 per cent.

Section 50, again, was very important. It touched one of those four cardinal points which MR. DAMPIER had mentioned on asking leave to introduce the Bill. The general complaint was that the landholder who had paid cess on account of lakhiraj lands could not recover it owing to the difficulty of identifying and getting hold of the actual lakhirajdar, for the purpose of suing him, and it was notorious that the difficulty was a real one. Section 50 was introduced with the object of remedying it.

When the landholder had paid in the amount of cess due from him, and after he had taken the precautions required by the Bill, so that the lakhirajdar must know perfectly well the amount which was due from him, and the landholder was authorized to proceed either against the owner, the holder, or the occupier of the lakhiraj land; and when he had obtained a decree against any of these, he might execute it either against the owner, holder, or occupier whom he found upon the land, or by bringing the land itself to sale. Although the decree might have been obtained against the occupier, the land itself might be sold as if the decree had been the owner. MR. DAMPIER believed that there would be no practical hardship under that procedure except perhaps in a few cases at first, until the lakhirajdars had realized that the difficulty of identifying them personally no longer afforded them protection in avoiding payment of what was due from them. The Committee had not been able to devise any other means which should give the zemindar even a fair chance of recovering the money which he had paid or which would prevent the lakhirajdar from escaping his liability.

Section 51 provided a kind of countercheck to this procedure. Every lakhirajdar was required to inform himself whether the landholder had entered his land in his return or not; and if the lakhiraj land was not so entered, the lakhirajdar was enjoined to come into the Collector, make his own return, and pay his cess directly to the Collector, thereby avoiding all the danger of future severe penalties for non-payment and other vexation to which his connection with the landholder might render him liable. That would be a sort of spur to the landholder on one side not to omit these lands from his

returns; and, if he did so, for the lakhirajdar to come forward to return himself, and thus get clear of his connection with the landholder. It was a great object to get the cess out of these lakhirajdars; they were so impalpable that nobody could identify them or point them out.

In section 62A an alteration was made in the mode of service of notices on owners, managers, or occupiers of tea lands, &c.

Chapter 5 was entirely new; it contained special provisions for Orissa and Midnapore. The remarks Mr. DAMPIER had made in regard to lands which he had called lakhiraj referred only to rent-free lands in estates, not to lands recognized as revenue-free and entered as such in the register. The remarks he would now proceed to make related to revenue-free estates borne on the register as such.

It so happened that these recognized revenue-free estates in Orissa were extremely numerous and many of them very minute. The reason of this was that the province being temporarily settled, at the time of the re-settlements the Revenue Officers examined the case of each of these rent-free holdings, and such as were for any reason not practically liable to be assessed with revenue, were admitted as recognized revenue-free estates. The title to these estates being so secured, there was not, Mr. DAMPIER thought, that normal antagonism between the zemindar and the holders of them as in the permanently settled estates.

The Orissa Revenue Officers had represented that it was very troublesome to the owners of these petty revenue estates to go long distances in order to pay small amounts into the treasury, and that the zemindars would not be unwilling to accept the trouble of collecting the cess from them if sufficient remuneration were allowed. Finding the opinion of the Commissioner and Collectors to be so strong on this point, Mr. DAMPIER had proposed these sections; he had provided that the valuation should be made by the Collector, but when the Collector had made the valuation he might annex these registered estates for the purposes of collection to any larger estates within which they were contained or to which they were adjacent. Then notice would be given to the holders of both estates concerned, and the amount of cess which was paid on account of these lands by the holders of the larger estates would be recoverable as rent from the lakhirajdars, and the holders of the larger estates were allowed the same concession of 50 per cent. for the trouble and risk of collection as in the case of rent-free lands. The Collector was only permitted so to annex any lakhiraj estate which was less than 500 beeghas in extent; he was not to annex a large lakhiraj estate to a small revenue-paying estate, merely to save the trouble of collection.

Chapter 6 was miscellaneous. The Collector made the valuations for the purposes of assessment, and he collected the cess for the District Road Committee. Under the existing law he had to get the permission of the Committee to entertain such establishment as he required; but the District Committee knew nothing whatever of the Collector's requirements for these purposes, the Bill therefore provided that the Collector should entertain such establishment as he considered necessary, and the cost of such establishment would be a first charge on the Committee.

Section 69 referred to the recovery of the cost of service of notices; the cost would be recovered either from the person to whom such notice or process was addressed, or from the person owing to whose default the notice or process was issued, as the Collector might think fit; but there was a proviso that no costs or other expenses should be recovered in respect of the publication of any proclamation or the issue of any notice calling for any return or giving intimation of any amount payable by any person as cess under the Act; all notices of valuation of the rate fixed and the amounts payable were to be served at the cost of the District Road Committee.

Section 71 contained one of the cardinal changes to be made in the law. Under the existing Act the Collector could proceed for the recovery of the public works cess against movable property only. As this Bill was introduced in Council it provided that arrears of cess might be recovered like arrears of land revenue, that is, by simply lotting the estate on account of which the arrear was due and putting it up to sale. This proposal met with opposition as warm as the support which it received from many officers, and as a compromise

the Select Committee accepted section 71 as it stood in the Bill, which provided that these cesses were to be recovered not by proceeding against personal property only, but as a public demand either against the personal property or against the land in respect of which the arrear was due.

Section 72 contained a repetition of the old provision of the law enabling the Collector to enter into possession and recover the amount due by attachment; but the Committee had made more specific provision on the subject by providing that notices should be issued prohibiting the ryots and tenants from paying rent to the person whose land had been attached.

Section 73 was a new section. It provided that the Lieutenant-Governor might invest any person with the powers of a Collector under the Act to be exercised under the control or supervision of the Collector, or independently of such control and supervision as the Lieutenant-Governor might direct. Then, by section 74, the Collector might, with the sanction of the Commissioner, delegate all or any of his powers and functions under the Act to be exercised, under the control and supervision of the Collector, by any Deputy Collector, Assistant Collector, or Sub-Deputy Collector, provided that every order passed by any such officer should be directly appealable to the Collector; every thing was to be done on the Collector's responsibility.

In section 77 the Select Committee had gathered together the different points upon which an appeal could be preferred to the Commissioner, besides valuations and orders for the levy of fines which were provided for by preceding sections.

Section 78 was new and provided that all proceedings of the Collector or any officer of a lower grade under that part should be subject to the general control and supervision of the Commissioner and of the Board of Revenue, and that all proceedings of the Commissioner should be subject to the general control and supervision of the Board.

Section 79 related to certain points connected with the valuation and collections, regarding which the Board of Revenue might make rules; and so ended the first division of the Bill which contained the Revenue Officers' part of the business.

Taking up the next division of the Bill, section 80, the Select Committee had defined of what the road fund should consist; and in section 81, which was a very important section, the Committee had set out the purposes to which the District Road Fund was applicable; those purposes were arranged in the order in which each of them should be provided for. The first of these was payment of the cost of establishment and expenses incurred by the Collector, and the indemnification of the Collector for costs or damages incurred in the course of proceedings for the assessment and collection of the cesses; secondly, payment of establishments entertained and costs incurred by the District Road Committee, and of leave allowances, gratuities, and pensions of their officers; thirdly, payment of sums which the Committee had undertaken to pay as interest on capital expended on works which directly tended to improve means of communication within the district, or between the district and adjacent districts, District Committees having expressed a wish sometimes to contribute towards the interest on capital expended for such purposes; fourthly, to the repairs and maintenance of roads, bridges, and other means for facilitating communication, which the Committee had taken charge of or towards which they had agreed to contribute. The effect of the fourth and fifth clauses came to this: before the District Committee could expend money on new works, they were bound to keep in efficient repair existing communications.

Clause 5 provided that whatever money was over after so providing for maintenance should be applied to the construction of new communications and of means and appliances for improving the supply of drinking water, and to the planting of trees by the roadsides, &c.; lastly, after doing all that, if the District Committee had any money left, it might be invested in local debenture loans issued by Government for the construction of productive public works which might directly improve the means of communication within the district, or between the district and the adjacent districts; and to these purposes to which the District Road Fund might be applied there were three precautionary provisos appended. Chapter 2 of this part

related to the District Committee's functions. The Select Committee had made an alteration by allowing members of Road Committees to hold office for five years. There were in future to be two kinds of meetings—ordinary and special. This followed the model of the Calcutta Municipal Act; the principal difference between the two kinds of meeting consisting in the number of members required to make a quorum. The Select Committee had also made the rules regarding the meetings of the Road Committees more precise than they were under the existing law.

Section 100 made an important change. An annexure to the Bill had been printed and circulated which showed the unfortunate result of leaving the power of appointing engineers in the hands of District Committees. MR. DAMPIER thought that any one who read that annexure would be satisfied that the power had not been wisely exercised. It had therefore been thought necessary after communication with Government to devise a new mode of appointment. It was now provided that the Road Committee should fix the salary of the engineer with the approval of Government; then on a vacancy occurring the Committee would inform the Lieutenant-Governor of the fact of there being a vacancy, and ask him to send in the names of competent persons. The Lieutenant-Governor would then send in three names, and the Committee would select the person whom they thought best.

There was reason to doubt whether some of the present District Engineers were qualified for the posts which they held. This was so great a public evil that the Select Committee had thought themselves justified in making the somewhat severe provision that all appointments of District Engineers existing at the time of the commencement of the Act should hold good for a period not exceeding two years, the office being then deemed to be vacant; but if the Lieutenant-Governor and the Road Committee were both satisfied that no change was required, the engineer then in office might be re-appointed.

Section 102 provided for the appointment of other officers and establishments under Road Committees; section 103 for the making of rules for leave of absence, a proviso being added that the District Engineer was to have the privilege of the existing Uncovenanted Sick Leave. Then in section 104 the limit was adhered to that the salaries and establishments should not exceed one-fourth of the Road Committee's income.

Section 105 was new, and provided that the Lieutenant-Governor might appoint a Superintendent of Works for a whole division, and under section 106, for a group of districts in more than one division if the Road Committees so wished.

Section 107 was permissive, and related to the making of rules for pensions and gratuities. It was not anticipated the Road Committees would avail themselves very largely of this power.

Sections 119 and 120 defined what had had been rather hazy before, namely the power of the Commissioner of the Division as to estimates prepared by Road Committees. If the estimates were passed by less than two-thirds of the Committee (which practically was never the case), the Commissioner might do very much what he thought best, provided that the total of the estimates as modified by him did not exceed the rate which the Committee had adopted for levying the cess for the year.

Under section 20, when any estimate had been passed by more than two-thirds of the Committee, the Commissioner could only suggest, and the Committee might adopt the Commissioner's suggestions or decline to adopt them as they thought fit, giving in writing the reason for so doing. The Commissioner might then either approve of the estimates or hand them on to the Government; and the Lieutenant-Governor might pass such orders upon the estimates as he thought fit, or might order the Committee to make alterations. But the Lieutenant-Governor was precluded from making such alterations as should have the effect of raising the total of the estimates above the total estimated to be at the disposal of the Road Committee, the cess being levied as determined by the Committee for the year, unless the Lieutenant-Governor considered the estimate insufficient for providing for the proper maintenance of existing works.

It was deemed necessary to leave this power in the hands of the Lieutenant-Governor, so as to enable him to deal, if necessary, with the case of a perverse Committee which refused to fix a reasonable rate for the levy of the tax.

Chapter 3 relating to the constitution and duties of Branch Committees consisted principally of details.

Section 39 and the following sections were new. They required every District Road Committee to appoint a standing Sub-Committee to audit accounts, consisting of the Vice-Chairman and two members, who should audit the accounts regularly every month according to rules laid down for the purpose, and these accounts were to be sent to the Central Office of Accounts, and would there be checked and dealt with by such officers as the Lieutenant-Governor might order.

Section 144A was new, and was introduced on a suggestion from Behar. It empowered every District Road Committee to make bye-laws for regulating traffic on roads and for the preservation of roads and water-channels, and to impose fines for breach of such bye-laws. Every such bye-law when sanctioned by the Lieutenant-Governor and published in the *Calcutta Gazette* would have the force of law.

Chapter V, Miscellaneous, consisted of one section which enabled the Lieutenant-Governor to appoint such agency as was required in the offices of control, such as the offices of the Commissioner, the Board of Revenue, and Superintending Engineer, in the offices of account, and in any treasury for the exercise of proper control over the proceedings of Collectors and District Road Committees, for the proper examination and checking of estimates and accounts. All these establishments were entertained specially for the purposes of District Road Committees, and in all fairness they must be paid for by those Committees.

Lastly, Part IV was general, and empowered the Lieutenant-Governor to prescribe certain forms and rules.

At the next meeting of the Council MR. DAMPIER would move that the Council proceed to the consideration of the report of the Select Committee, and to the discussion of the detailed provisions of the Bill.

REPORT ON THE STATE OF THE SALT MARKET FOR THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1879-80.

No. 188B, dated Fort William, the 20th March 1880.

From—COLMAN MACAULAY, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Lower Provinces,
To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Revenue Department.

I AM directed to submit the following report on the state of the salt market for the third quarter of 1879-80, comprising the months of October, November, and December 1879.

Hon'ble C. T. BUCKLAND.

2. The quantity of salt of every description cleared in the quarter under report amounted to 21,10,806 maunds 10 seers and 14½ chittacks, against 27,37,846 maunds 19 seers and 5½ chittacks in the previous quarter, and 19,01,619 maunds 19 seers and 14 chittacks in the corresponding quarter of the previous year; and the amount of duty levied thereon was Rs. 56 46,712-13-9, against Rs. 73,79,362-10 in the previous quarter, and Rs. 50,37,902-14-8 in the corresponding quarter of the previous year.

3. The quantity of excise salt sold in the districts of Cuttack, Balasore, Pooree, and 24-Pergunnahs during the present quarter from the stock of the different seasons' manufacture, and the quantity which remained in store at the close of the quarter, are shown in Table I.

TABLE I.

	CUTTACK.	BALASORE.				POOREE.		24-PER- GUNNAHS.	
	Manufac- ture of	Manufacture of				Manufacture of		Manufacture of	
	1878-79.	1878-79.	1876-77.	1877-78.	1878-79.	1877-78.	1878-79.	1878-79.	1878-79.
	M. S. C.	M. S. C.	M. S. C.	M. S. C.	M. S. C.	M. S. C.	M. S. C.	M. S. C.	M. S. C.
Balance at close of last quarter	40,880 5 0	354 0 0	27 30 0	917 1 0	95,043 15 0	14,639 13 0	2,34,467 5 0	6,397 0 0	
Manufactured or added during the quarter.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total	40,880 5 0	354 0 0	27 30 0	917 1 0	95,043 15 0	14,639 13 0	2,34,467 5 0	6,397 0 0	
Sales during the quarter	14,448 0 0	.....	.....	164 13 6	35,172 20 0	2,698 0 0	63,992 0 0	5,800 0 0	
Wastage	.....	.....	.....	480 17 10	541 30 0	5,375 3 0	.....	.....
Total	14,448 0 0	.....	.....	644 31 0	35,714 10 0	8,073 3 0	63,992 0 0	5,800 0 0	
Balance at close of the quarter	26,432 5 0	354 0 0	27 30 0	273 10 0	59,328 5 0	6,596 10 0	1,70,475 5 0	597 0 0	

4. From the above statement it will be seen that the total sale of excise salt during the quarter under review amounted to 1,22,274 maunds 33 seers 6 chittacks, against 1,35,877 maunds 20 seers in the previous quarter, and 1,14,488 maunds 24 seers 2 chittacks in the corresponding quarter of the previous year.

5. The subjoined Table II shows in comparison the total importations into the port of Calcutta and the total clearances of sea-imported salt during the quarter under review and the corresponding quarters of the previous two years.

TABLE II.

DESCRIPTION OF SALT	1877-78.		1878-79.		1879-80.	
	Third quarter.		Third quarter.		Third quarter.	
	Imported.	Cleared.	Imported.	Cleared.	Imported.	Cleared.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Liverpool pungab	9,60,309	12,91,596	11,79,250	13,63,706	12,59,926	13,26,794
Foreign karkutch	2,66,073	2,13,916	4,12,604	2,91,737	2,53,926	2,73,634
Indian ditto	87,923	1,29,409	1,71,785	1,37,788	1,62,263	1,34,659
Ceylon ditto	.....	4,000	.....	3,600	.....	.....
Total	12,53,305	17,49,921	17,63,639	17,96,731	16,76,115	17,35,087

6. The following are the details of the Indian kurkutch salt shown in the table above:—

TABLE III.

	1877-78.		1878-79.		1879-80.	
	Third quarter.		Third quarter.		Third quarter.	
	Imported.	Cleared.	Imported.	Cleared.	Imported.	Cleared.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Bombay	87,923	1,00,285	1,09,535	1,34,934	1,62,850	1,84,046
Beyt			2,000	2,750		
Madras		23,574				
Coconada		500				
Calicut			200	300		
Tuticorin		6,050				
Rangoon					2	2
Total	87,923	1,30,409	1,71,785	1,37,788	1,63,252	1,84,680

7. Table IV shows the quantity of sea-imported salt remaining in the warehouses at the close of the quarter, as compared with the results of the previous four quarters.

TABLE IV.

WHERE STORED		Third quarter of 1878-79.	Fourth quarter of 1878-79.	First quarter of 1879-80.	Second quarter of 1879-80.	Third quarter of 1879-80.
		Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Sulkea Government	golahs	7,71,733	9,25,358	4,62,250	4,64,452	6,61,570
Do. private		22,264	10,684			
Chittagong Government		62,895	21,980	58,450	93,487	79,984
Balasore private		3,120	2,628	1,828	2,836	1,513
Total		8,60,014	9,60,750	5,23,534	5,60,767	7,43,067

8. The despatches of salt from Calcutta by water and the three railways passing the several salt pass stations into the interior of the country, both east and west of the river Hooghly, during the quarter under review, and the corresponding quarters of the previous two years, are shown in Table V.

TABLE V.

PERIOD.	By Balakhal.	By Bankrail.	By Gowakholly.	By Kidderpore.	By Ballinghatta.	By East Indian Railway.	By B. & N. E. State Railway or Chitpore.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Third quarter of 1877-78	4,77,931	1,21,794	52,467	1,34,937	3,97,827	4,68,778	1,00,967
Do. 1878-79	4,16,469	1,01,810	54,183	1,36,046	4,39,985	4,01,222	1,04,604
Do. 1879-80	4,45,963	1,44,744	49,973	1,51,452	3,73,140	3,76,621	1,76,966

The quantity of salt despatched by the East Indian Railway to stations beyond Buxar in the quarter under review amounted to 6,862 maunds as noted on the margin, against 6,348 maunds in the previous quarter, and 10,911 maunds in the corresponding quarter of the previous year.

	Mds.
October	1,533
November	2,284
December	3,045
Total	6,862

9. The shipments of Liverpool salt for the port of Calcutta, according to published market reports, were as follow :—

					Tons.
October	...	...	...	...	13,373
November	...	...	...	...	34,960
December	...	...	...	...	23,945
Total	...	...	...	...	72,278

No shipments were reported during the quarter under review for the port of Chittagong.

10. Table VI shows the market prices per 100 maunds of Liverpool and other descriptions of salt at the close of each fortnight during the quarter, as compared with those obtaining during the same period last year.

TABLE VI.

DESCRIPTION OF SALT.	Prices on the 15th October.		Prices on the 31st October.		Prices on the 16th November.		Prices on the 30th November.		Prices on the 15th December.		Prices on the 31st December.	
	1878.	1879.	1878.	1879.	1878.	1879.	1878.	1879.	1878.	1879.	1878.	1879.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Liverpool pungah ...	81	80	79	80	80	87	84	88	81	71	74	71
French kurkutch ...	80	82	84	82	83	90	82	90	78	90	78	88
Jeddah ..	84	82	83	82	82	84	80	81	80	87	82	88
Bombay ..	35	38	34	38	40	53	48	51	36	48	34	62
Madras ..	71	71	71	71	71	71	71	71	71	71	71	71
Italian ..	85	82	84	82	83	90	82	90	80	90	80	88
Muscat ..	66	74	66	74	69	74	70	72	71	75	71	73
Rock ..	80	77	77	77	77	82	80	105	50	105	50	105
Ceylon kurkutch ...	71	74	71	74	71	74	71	74	71	74	71	74

11. The following table shows the quantities of sea-imported salt admitted into bond and cleared from bond and shipboard at Chittagong during the quarter under review and the corresponding quarter of 1878-79 respectively :—

TABLE VII.

PORT.	DESCRIPTION OF SALT.	ADMITTED INTO BOND.		CLEARED.	
		Third quarter of 1878-79.	Third quarter of 1879-80.	Third quarter of 1878-79.	Third quarter of 1879-80.
		Mds.	Mds.	Mds. s.	Mds. s.
Chittagong	Liverpool pungah	43,582	40,009	49,890 10	50,014 5
	Madras kurkutch	...	...	...	1,800 0
	Jeddah ..	...	...	...	160 0
Balasore	Madras	...	...	560 0	...
Total		43,582	40,009	50,450 10	51,874 5

No transactions in sea-imported salt have been reported for the quarter from the ports of Balasore, Cuttack, and Pooree.

Rainfall, Weather, and State and Prospects of the Crops.

Statement showing Rainfall, Weather, and State and Prospects of the Crops in the different Districts of Bengal, as reported to Government during the week ending the 27th March 1880.

No.	District, and date of return.	Rainfall at Sudder Station in inches	Character of the weather, state and prospects of the crops, and state of health at date.
BENGAL.			
<i>Western Districts.</i>			
BURDWAN DIV.	1 Burdwan, Mar. 27 '80	Nil	Weather—very hot. Prospects of crops fair. Fewer cases of cholera than last week.
	2 Bankoora, .. 27 ..	Nil	Weather—very hot; occasionally cloudy. Indigo, cotton, and <i>teel</i> doing well. Sugarcane being transplanted in some places. Rain wanted for crops and for ploughing. Some cases of small-pox and cholera in Bishnupore.
	3 Beerbhoom, .. 27 ..	0.05	Weather—seasonable. The few <i>rubber</i> crops yielding a 12-anna outturn. Cholera worse in Dubrappore thana; less elsewhere.
	4 Midnapore, .. ..	.....	Report not received.
	5 Hooghly, .. 27 ..	Nil	Weather—warm and cloudy during week. Wind from south-east. Transplanting of sugarcane commenced in places. Cases of cholera and small-pox still prevalent in thanas Serampore and Bolagore. Small-pox only in Polba and Gooptipara.
PARTURIST DIV.	Howrah, .. 29 ..	Nil	Weather—seasonable. State and prospects of crops fair.
	<i>Central Districts.</i>		
	6 24-Pergunnahs Mar. 29 '80	0.05	Weather—hot. Ploughing still going on. Prospects of <i>boro dhan</i> good. Health generally good. Cholera at Baraset abated.
	7 Naddea, .. 27 ..	Nil	Weather—warm and cloudy, with high wind. Cutting of winter crops nearly completed. Lands being ploughed, and in some parts sowing of <i>aus</i> commenced.
	8 Jessore, .. 27 ..	0.01	Weather—hot, with a good deal of wind. <i>Boro dhan</i> prospects good. Ploughing for early sowings actively going on. Cattle disease somewhat prevalent in Sudder sub-division. Health good.
	Magoorah	2.11	
	Narail	3.90	
	Khoolna	1.26	
	9 Moorsheadabad, .. 27 ..	0.14	Weather—hot. Land being ploughed for next crop. Public health generally good, except a few cases of cholera in some thanas. It is, however, subsiding.
	10 Dinagore, Mar. 25 '80	Nil	Weather—generally fine and warm, with slight wind. Ploughing for <i>shadoi dhan</i> going on. Rain will improve its prospects.
RAJSHAHY AND COCH BEHAR DIV.	11 Rajshahye, .. 27 ..	0.17	Weather—cloudy. Slight rain on night of 25th. Sowing of <i>aman dhan</i> continues. <i>Chaitali</i> crops being cut; outturn generally above-average. Public health good.
	12 Rangpore, .. 26 ..	0.05	Weather—hot and seasonable. Dry and hot weather which appears to have set in will benefit crops after recent rain. State and prospects of crops good and favorable.
	Gnibanda	0.23	
	Bagdogra	1.24	
	Kurigram	1.96	
	13 Bogra, .. 27 ..	0.43	Weather—warm for the time of year. Ploughing for <i>aus</i> going on.
	14 Pabna, .. 27 ..	1.32	Weather—warm, with strong wind. Storm from south on evening of 25th. Prospects of crops good. Public health good.
	15 Darjeeling, .. ..	...	Report not received.
	16 Julpigoree, .. 27 ..	1.35	Weather—stormy, with rain up to 25th. Since then fine, but threatening again. Rain greatly benefited ploughing which is going on everywhere. A good deal of small-pox about, but general health good.
	Cooch Behar, .. 25 ..	1.97	Weather—cloudy during greater portion of week, and some rain. East wind still blowing. Rain done some injury to tobacco not yet cut; but improved prospects of <i>chenna</i> , <i>kaon</i> , and early rice. Small-pox still raging. A few cases of cholera.
DACCA DIV.	Dinbatta	1.97	
	Mathabhanga	1.23	
	Meckligunge	3.00	
	<i>Eastern Districts.</i>		
	17 Dacca, Mar. 27 '80	2.18	Weather—cloudy, with strong south-easterly wind accompanied by rain. <i>Chenna</i> and <i>boro</i> partially damaged by hailstones. Public health good.
	18 Furreedpore, .. 28 ..	1.76	Weather—heavy rain, cloudy, and unusually cool. State and prospects of crops good. <i>Aus</i> and <i>teel</i> being sown.
	Goalundo	2.78	
	Madaripore	0.18	
	19 Backergunge, .. 25 ..	0.02	Weather—rough and boisterous, with high wind from south-west. A hailstorm in Dukhin Shabazpore on 17th. Ground very dry; some showers now would do good. Prospects continue fair.
	20 Mymensingh, .. 26 ..	1.42	Weather—stormy, with rain. State and prospects of crops good.
	21 Tipperah, .. 26 ..	3.80	South-east gales reported last week continued until 23rd, accompanied by heavy showers, particularly after sunset, and in some places by hail. Weather now fair. Much damage done to <i>boro dhan</i> by floods. Low lands under water, and sowing and ploughing on them stopped. Many houses blown down and boats lost.
	Brahmunberiah	12.55	
	Chandpore	5.90	

No.	District and date of report.	Rainfall at Sudder Station in inches.	Character of the weather, state and prospects of the crops, and state of health at date.
BENGAL.—(Continued.)			
Eastern Districts.—(Continued.)			
CHITTAGONG DIV.	22 Chittagong, Mar. 30 '80	0.45	Weather—seasonable. Cold-weather and spring crops being gathered with good outturn. Lands being prepared for <i>pania aus</i> . Sporadic cases of cholera in Satkania and Moiscal. Cattle disease in Cox's Bazar and Patin. Common rice about 19 seers per rupee.
	23 Noakholly, " 25 "	0.38	Squalls, with occasional heavy rain from south all the week. Damage to buildings reported from various parts of district. State and prospects of crops very good. Ploughing active.
	24 Chittagong Hill Tracts, " 23 "	0.32	Weather—cloudy, with occasional sunshine. Some rain on 21st and 22nd. <i>Jam</i> cutting nearly over. Rain done some good to winter crops. Public health good.
	Hill Tipperah, " 24 "	10.52	Weather—cloudy and occasionally stormy. Prospects of <i>boro</i> and chillies fair. Tobacco being gathered. Public health good. A considerably heavy storm occurred on 17th.
BEHAR.			
PATNA DIV.	25 Patna, Mar. 27 "	Nil	East wind and cloudy weather. Harvesting of <i>rubbee</i> crops going on well.
	26 Gya, " 27 '80	Nil	Weather—hot. Maximum reading in shade 104°. Prospects of <i>rubbee</i> continue favorable. Public health generally good.
	27 Shahabad, " 28 "	Nil	Weather—hot, with east wind. Sugarcane cultivation progressing. Mango crop promises well. <i>Rubbee</i> being harvested. General health good.
	28 Durbhunga, " 27 "	Nil	Weather—seasonable, with strong east wind. <i>Rubbee</i> crops being harvested. Mango crop at present promising. Prices falling. Public health good.
	29 Mozufferpore, " 27 "	Nil	Weather—fine and warm. Prospect of <i>rubbee</i> crops excellent. Harvesting progressing briskly; outturn satisfactory. Public health good.
	30 Saran, " 27 "	Nil	Weather—bright, clear, and warm. Both east and west wind. <i>Rubbee</i> being harvested; an excellent outturn obtained where threshed. Condition of district generally satisfactory.
BAGULPORE DIV.	31 Champaran, " 27 "	Nil	Weather—bright and warm. East wind prevalent. State and prospects of crops very good.
	32 Monghyr, Mar. 27 '80	Nil	Weather—getting much warmer. Eas. wind still continues. Prospects continue good. Harvesting of <i>rubbee</i> commenced generally.
	33 Bhagulpore, " 29 "	Nil	Strong easterly wind and clouds. <i>Rubbee</i> harvest in progress; outturn promising well.
	34 Purneah, " 27 "	Nil	Easterly wind still continues, but with less force and consequently greater heat of temperature. State and prospects of crops good. Ploughing for early rice still going on.
	35 Maldah, " 27 "	Nil	Weather—somewhat cool during last week. Little rain that fell last week did much harm to mango crop. Wheat and barley also suffered to some degree. Health continues good.
	36 Bonthal Pergas, " 27 "	Nil	Weather—hot and damp. Crops all good.
	Jamtara	0.40	
ORISSA.			
ORISSA DIV.	37 Cuttack, " "		Report not received.
	38 Pooree, Mar. 25 "	Nil	Weather—seasonable. Ploughing going on. <i>Dalua</i> progressing well. Cold-weather crops being gathered. Prices stationary. Small-pox not yet disappeared.
	39 Balasore, " 26 "	Nil	Weather—very hot. Rain much wanted. Small-pox prevalent in north. Cases of sporadic cholera still reported.
CHOTA NAGPORE.			
<i>South-West Frontier Agency.</i>			
40	Hazareebagh, Mar. 26 '80	Nil	Hot wind has set in. Nights still cool. <i>Rubbee</i> crops nearly all harvested. Cholera appeared towards Gawan.
41	Lohardugga, " 27 "	Nil	Weather—hotter than usual at this season. <i>Rubbee</i> harvest continues. Prospects of <i>mohwa</i> crop excellent. Small-pox still prevalent.
42	Singbhoom, " 26 "	Nil	Weather—hot. Seasonable. <i>Mohwa</i> fair. Mango a complete failure. Cases of cholera in Dhalbhoom.
43	Manbhoom, " 27 "	Nil	Weather—dry and hot. Morning foggy on 25th. <i>Rubbee</i> crops doing well. In some places wheat, barley, and sugarcane being gathered. Prospects of cotton good. <i>Mohwa</i> flowers falling. Public health good. A few cases of cholera in Sudder thana, but the disease has since disappeared.

Published for general information.

CALCUTTA, STATISTICAL DEPT.,
The 30th March 1880.A. MACKENZIE,
Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

Abstract of Observations as received in the Office of the Meteorological Reporter to the Government of Bengal during the month of February 1880.
N. B.—The Barometric data are reduced for temperature and not for height above sea-level.

STATIONS.	Height above sea-level.	BAROMETER.			RADIATION THERMOMETER.						TEMPERATURE OF AIR.						VAPOUR TENSION.				HUMIDITY.			RAIN-FALL.				
		Mean of			Range.	SUR.			Below min. in shade.	GRASS.		MEAN OF		Mean of min.	Mean.	MEAN OF		From minima.	Mean of	MEAN OF		Number of days.	In inches.					
		10 hours.	10 hours.	Mean.		Above max. in shade.	Max.	Min.		Day.	Night.	Day.	Night.			10 hours.	10 hours.			From minima.	Mean.				10 hours.	10 hours.	From minima.	Mean.
Sibsagar	333	29.651	29.718	29.579	139	50.7	27th	141.2	50.1	4.4	22nd	39.2	71.0	10.5	54.5	63.7	63.5	71.4	71.4	2nd	43.0	493	493	98	61	11	1.43	
Goalpara	336	29.758	29.811	29.697	134	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	75.1	18.4	56.3	65.8	66.1	72.9	72.9	20th	50.4	493	493	95	45	8	1.45
Sitabgarh	374	29.802	29.856	29.758	127	53.2	28th	144.4	48.5	8.9	23rd	34.0	22.5	52.4	66.4	63.3	70.1	70.1	11th	20th	47.5	493	493	93	45	6	1.53	
Darjeeling	691.3	29.300	29.412	29.383	109	57.7	29th	139.4	30.6	7.3	20th	23.1	50.1	37.8	42.3	43.3	46.1	46.1	8th	21st	29.3	493	493	93	85	7	1.68	
Purneah	125	29.823	29.902	29.764	138	...	...	138.2	49.8	4.3	14, 20, & 41.7	...	...	62.1	61.9	67.4	73.5	73.5	...	20th	47.0	493	493	90	62	6	1.71
Purbunga	160.33	29.800	29.854	29.756	108	59.1	28th	139.4	45.0	9.5	14th	39.4	73.7	19.1	54.0	63.7	66.0	71.0	27th	20th	49.6	493	493	88	57	5	2.17	
Patna	179	29.795	29.849	29.741	112	61.3	27th	141.8	50.1	9.9	8th	43.5	73.8	20.6	52.0	63.9	68.7	73.5	27th	20th	49.6	493	493	85	59	5	2.39	
Gya	37.5	29.838	29.892	29.785	112	61.3	28th	136.4	45.3	10.2	3rd	37.4	78.4	23.8	55.5	67.5	73.6	75.1	5 & 26th	18th	42.5	493	493	72	44	4	1.99	
Hazratnagar	201.0	29.802	29.856	29.758	105	61.3	29th	140.6	44.0	8.3	20th	46.8	73.1	21.8	57.3	67.4	69.1	73.6	20th	20th	50.2	493	493	84	61	5	2.43	
Barrampore	66.45	29.802	29.856	29.758	136	493	493	84	50	5	2.43
Burdwan	99.00	29.802	29.856	29.758	134	60.3	9th	141.2	49.3	10.8	20th	37.9	80.4	20.3	60.1	69.9	73.1	80.2	26th	20th	51.3	493	493	89	64	6	2.61	
Jessore	33.3	29.802	29.856	29.758	123	63.1	28th	149.8	47.2	11.6	20th	38.3	80.8	21.5	58.3	69.2	73.4	78.3	27th	20th	49.7	493	493	90	63	4	2.40	
Dacca	35	29.802	29.856	29.758	128	68.7	1st	148.2	50.9	9.2	20th	43.0	79.9	18.4	69.3	70.5	73.1	78.4	10th	20th	52.1	493	493	88	56	5	2.40	
Chittagong	86.7	29.802	29.856	29.758	112	493	493	88	57	1	0.16
Dumagiri	31.36	29.802	29.856	29.758	133	69.3	25th	146.7	53.9	7.7	493	493	91	67	3	2.91
Alipore	6	29.802	29.856	29.758	131	69.3	23rd	149.7	59.1	7.3	28th	47.8	81.1	19.5	61.6	69.9	73.4	78.6	27th	20th	52.1	493	493	86	72	5	1.07	
Sauror Island	60	29.802	29.856	29.758	121	69.3	24th	155.0	56.8	9.5	20th	41.5	84.9	17.6	69.3	76.7	78.6	86.3	28th	20th	54.3	493	493	90	60	4	1.32	
Cuttack	17.44	29.802	29.856	29.758	118	69.3	24th	153.0	56.8	9.5	20th	41.5	84.9	17.6	69.3	76.7	78.6	86.3	28th	20th	54.3	493	493	86	64	5	1.56	
False Point	31	29.802	29.856	29.758	125	69.3	11th	117.0	62.7	19.3	20th	56.4	82.4	7.5	73.9	78.7	79.2	81.1	27th	2nd	70.3	493	493	50	65	1	0.20	
Vinagapattam	20.44	29.802	29.856	29.758	116	69.3	29th	151.5	59.3	5.6	493	493	91	61	1	0.35
Akyab	61.16	29.802	29.856	29.758	110	69.3	12th	151.0	59.3	5.6	32nd	65.3	80.2	14.3	74.9	80.8	83.7	86.7	13th	6th	70.9	493	493	87	74	...	...
Port Blair	76	29.802	29.856	29.758	108	66.8	1st	159.4	69.2	6.8	14th	62.6	85.3	8.2	76.0	73.8	83.9	81.0	6th	14th	71.7	493	493	84	60	14	7.68	
Kanowry	76	29.802	29.856	29.758	108	66.8	1st	159.4	69.2	6.8	14th	62.6	85.3	8.2	76.0	73.8	83.9	81.0	6th	14th	71.7	493	493	84	60	14	7.68	

Mean barometric pressure of 24 years ... 29.945 Mean humidity of 24 years ... 73.0 Mean rainfall of 48 years ... 0.87
 Ditto of 1880 ... 29.937 Ditto ditto of 1880 ... 69.0 Actual fall in 1880 ... 2.91
 Excess in 1880 ... 0.2 Defect in 1880 ... 3.1 Excess in 1880 ... 3.04

JOHN ELIOT,
 Meteorological Reporter to the Govt. of Bengal.

CALCUTTA,
 The 27th March 1880.

Mean Pressures and Temperatures of the preceding Table reduced to sea-level, with Anemometric Results and Cloud Observations.

STATIONS.	Mean barometric pressure reduced to sea-level.	Mean temperature reduced to sea-level.	WIND.										Percentage and resultant.	Mean velocity daily.	Mean clouds.
			North.	North-east.	East.	South-east.	South.	South-west.	West.	North-west.	Variable.	Calm.			
Aihagor ...	30.002	64.4	1	17	13	8	...	3	6	7	...	3	35 N 60° E	45.4	6.29
Gonipara ...	29.978	66.7	...	5	11	5	...	3	10	6	...	19	5 N 60° E	50.9	2.00
Silchar ...	29.979	66.6	2	9	18	5	...	10	7	...	...	1	28 S 50° E	61.6	3.08
Darjeeling ...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	14	9	...	...	26	45 S 50° W	44.8	7.28
Purneah ...	29.956	65.1	3	3	7	2	...	2	33	6	...	...	40 N 85° W	77.0	1.28
Durbhanga ...	29.976	64.1	2	...	6	4	...	18	22	4	...	...	55 S 70° W	79.5	2.84
Patna ...	29.985	64.3	1	5	7	...	1	2	35	6	...	1	63 N 78° W	21.0	3.84
Gya ...	29.991	68.3	...	14	...	1	1	2	8	18	...	14	39 N 81° W	44.3	4.00
Hazaribagh ...	29.986	67.9	3	3	4	8	3	4	12	23	...	...	30 N 63° W	158.9	3.21
Berhampore ...	29.988	67.1	5	7	6	5	2	8	17	8	...	...	43 N 80° W	57.7	2.07
Burdwan ...	29.971	70.0	4	12	9	5	1	5	8	12	...	1	24 N 1° E	55.1	2.53
Jessore ...	29.968	69.3	16	...	2	1	14	4	13	9	...	...	35 N 79° W	40.8	2.80
Dacca ...	29.969	70.6	2	3	...	3	4	5	11	7	...	23	27 S 85° W	62.3	2.07
Chittagong ...	29.974	71.5	4	18	8	3	2	5	10	8	...	5	27 N 11° W	83.1	2.05
Dinagiri ...	...	...	7	...	...	6	3	5	10	19	...	9	43 N 85° W	...	0.17
Alipore ...	29.960	69.9	13	10	5	3	11	27	18	20	...	...	27 N 75° W	95.7	3.05
Saugor Island ...	29.964	72.8	15	16	3	5	30	30	8	7	...	3	51 S 35° W	169.3	2.57
Cuttack ...	29.964	70.0	...	7	4	2	11	16	6	4	...	6	33 S 30° W	50.3	1.93
False Point ...	29.969	72.6	2	4	11	6	...	11	2	4	...	...	41 S 11° E	204.4	2.45
Viragapatam ...	29.967	73.8	...	...	7	37	17	18	34	4	...	...	46 S 16° W	49.1	3.14
Aiyah ...	29.957	72.3	6	9	12	1	...	4	13	13	...	...	33 N 18° W	73.4	1.03
Port Blair ...	29.945	80.9	9	47	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	97 N 38° E	131.5	3.05
JANUARY 1880.															
Nancowry ...	29.916	79.0	3	21	16	11	...	3	...	5	...	...	50 N 71° E	191.0	6.10

NOTE.

Barometric Pressure.—The pressures in column 2 of the above table for all stations below 500 feet are reduced from those given in column 3 of the table on the previous page, by adding the weight of a column of air of the temperatures given in column 18. For stations above 500 feet elevation the reduction is made by Captain Allan Cunningham's table, "Prof., Papers on Indian Engineering, No. OXIII." The temperatures at the sea-level are taken from column 3 of the above table.

Temperature.—The temperatures in column 3 are reduced from those in column 18 on the preceding page, by adding 1° Fahrenheit for every 450 feet.

Wind Resultant.—The resultant wind direction and its comparative predominance are calculated from the whole number of wind observations recorded during the month. The relative predominance in the direction of the resultant is given as a percentage of the whole number of observations. The direction is computed in the usual way by Lambert's formula.

Cloud.—This column gives the average proportion of clouded sky, a cloudless sky being indicated by 0, and one completely overcast by 10.

The above, being all comparable, afford the data for constructing a meteorological chart for the month, which will show the isobaric and isothermal lines and the resultant wind directions, which last may be represented by arrows of varying length, proportioned to the prevalence of the wind. To these may be added the rainfall from the previous tables.

CALCUTTA,
The 27th March 1880.

JOHN ELIOT,
Meteorological Reporter to the Govt. of Bengal.

**Results of the Meteorological Observations taken at the Alipore Observatory from
21st to 27th March 1880.**

Month.	Date.	Maximum in sun.	Mean pressure barometer at 32° Fah.	TEMPERATURE.				HYGROMETRY.				WIND.		Rain.	WEATHER.
				Mean.	Maximum.	Range.	Minimum.	Mean wet bulb.	Vapour tension.	Dew point.	Humidity.	Prevailing direction.	Miles recorded.		
1880.		☉	Inches.	☉	☉	☉	☉	☉	Inches	☉	%			Inches	
March	21st	159.2	29.076	82.0	80.7	15.3	75.4	77.5	0.874	75.2	78	Till 8 A.M. S S E, till mid- night chiefly S.	241	Nil	Chiefly cloudy, o and w.
"	22nd	144.7	.723	83.6	80.2	13.7	75.5	77.4	.875	75.2	75	Chiefly S	336	"	Cloudy, o.
"	23rd	163.0	.771	84.2	82.3	13.2	79.1	77.7	.865	74.8	74	Chiefly S	200	"	Chiefly cloudy, o.
"	24th	148.7	.610	83.4	80.7	13.6	76.1	77.3	.860	74.7	76	Chiefly S	276	"	Chiefly cloudy, o and w.
"	25th	154.2	.874	82.8	80.6	14.8	74.8	76.7	.839	73.0	76	Till 4 P.M. chiefly S, till 8-30 A.M. S S E, till 10 A.M. E N E through S E and E, till midnight S S E	184	"	Chiefly cloudy, d and w.
"	26th	151.9	.855	82.3	81.0	10.9	74.1	76.4	.834	73.8	77	Chiefly S S E and S ...	139	"	Cloudy, lr.
"	27th	154.9	.788	82.5	82.3	18.3	74.0	76.5	.836	73.8	77	Chiefly S S E	120	"	Day chiefly cloudy, night clear.

The mean pressure of the seven days	...	...	...	Inches.	29.785
The average pressure of the corresponding period for 24 years, S. G. Office	...	...	...	...	29.784

The mean temperature of the seven days	...	...	...	...	83.1
The average temperature of the corresponding period for 24 years, S. G. Office	...	...	...	...	83.1
The extreme variation of temperature during the seven days	...	...	...	...	18.3
The maximum temperature during the seven days	...	...	...	...	92.3

The mean relative humidity during the seven days	...	...	...	%	76
The average relative humidity of the corresponding period for 24 years, S. G. Office	...	...	...	...	65

The total fall of rain from 21st to 27th March 1880	...	...	...	Inches.	Nil.
The average fall of the corresponding period for 24 years, S. G. Office	...	...	...	...	0.24
The total fall from 1st January to 27th March 1880	...	...	...	...	2.96
The average fall of the corresponding period for 24 years, S. G. Office	...	...	...	...	2.70

The mean pressure, temperature, &c., are deduced from the traces of the barograph and thermograph.

The maximum and minimum temperatures are obtained from self-registering thermometers. All the thermometers are verified, and the readings have been corrected to a standard constructed and verified at the Kew Observatory. They are exposed under a thatched shed open at the sides, and are suspended four feet above the ground.

The barometer readings are corrected approximately to those of the standard, Newman's No. 86, formerly at the Surveyor-General's Office.

The hygrometric elements are obtained from Tables III, IV, and V of the official tables computed in the Meteorological Office, and based on Regnault's modifications of August's formula.

The direction and movement of the wind are taken from the trace of a Beckley's anemograph.

The mouth of the rain-gauge is one foot above the ground.

o overcast, w dew, d drizzling, lr lightning reflection.

METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE, INDIA,

The 30th March 1880.

JOHN ELIOT,

For Meteorological Reporter to the Government of India.

Report of Fluctuation of Traffic on the Tirhoot State Railway for the month of February 1880.

The total quantity of goods carried during the month of February 1880 aggregated maunds 1,97,674 as compared with maunds 1,49,193 carried during the corresponding period of 1879, and maunds 2,03,446 carried during the previous month, showing an increase of maunds 48,481 in the one case and a decrease of maunds 5,772 in the other.

Increases.

Coal	Mds.	20,146
For brick-burning at Mozufferpore and also at Durbhunga for the palace of the Moharajah, Durbhunga	Mds.	7,344
Hides and horns	Mds.	713
This increase is very satisfactory, and is due to the increased demand in foreign markets.		
Piece-goods	Mds.	8,746
The increase in this staple is steady.		
Seeds, indigo	Mds.	4,978
This is owing to the concern at Tirhoot having urged delivery by rail on the seed contraction in preference to that by river.		
Seeds, oil	Mds.	18,973
At the beginning of the month there was a good demand for linseed in the Calcutta market.		
Salt	Mds.	592
This is very satisfactory and is due to the rivers being unnavigable.		
Saltpetre	Mds.	677
Due to there being a good demand in the Calcutta market.		
Sugar	Mds.	6,558
This is an important traffic and finds a ready market here.		
Miscellaneous goods	Mds.	
This increase is steady.		

Decreases.

Food-grains	Mds.	6,635
This is due to there being no demand of this staple in outside markets.		
Indigo	Mds.	50
This is due to the diminished outturn of indigo in the district as compared with last year.		
Iron	Mds.	711
This entirely depends upon local requirements.		
Railway material	Mds.	10,658
This also depends upon railway works.		
Tobacco	Mds.	2,052
The demand for this is either equal or in many cases less than in the local markets.		

TIRHOOT STATE RAILWAY.

TRAFFIC DEPARTMENT.

Statement showing Increases and Decreases in Maundage of Staples carried over the Line during the month of February 1880 as compared with the corresponding period of 1879.

STAPLES.	1879.		1880.		1879.	1880.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Up.	Down.	Up.	Down.	Total.	Total.		
Coal	2,048	1,820	24,509	145	4,258	24,414	20,146	
Food-grain	4,712	45,208	3,936	33,820	49,920	47,756		6,635
Hides and horns		3,996	129	11,141	3,996	11,170	7,344	
Indigo		70		20	70	20		50
Iron	1,430	414	1,117	25	1,543	1,142		711
Piece-goods	9,103	49	9,835	10	9,152	9,845	713	
Railway material	2,415	10,755	1,517	405	12,170	12,262		10,658
Seeds, indigo	12,024	3,147	23,205	711	15,171	24,917	8,746	
Seeds, oil	307	4,030	292	9,733	3,995	10,025	4,978	
Salt	7,900	74	25,972	925	7,974	26,897	19,973	
Saltpetre		9,376		9,832	9,376	10,412	592	
Sugar	275	988	1,354	86	600	1,440	677	
Tobacco	626	2,741	231	984	3,367	1,215		2,052
Miscellaneous	12,712	13,360	14,107	18,553	26,819	32,866	6,558	
	63,821	90,372	1,00,045	91,629	1,49,193	1,97,674	48,481	20,136
Increase						48,481	48,481	

Somastipore, 18th March 1880.

A. W. Pore, Asst. Traffic Supdt.

Report of Fluctuation of Traffic on the Patna and Gya State Railway for the month of February 1880.

The approximate quantity of goods carried during the month of February 1880 aggregated maunds 1,18,960 as compared with maunds 1,42,935 carried during the previous month, showing a decrease of maunds 24,095.

PATNA AND GYA STATE RAILWAY.

TRAFFIC DEPARTMENT.

Statement showing Maundage of Staples carried over the Line during the month of February 1880.

STAPLES.	1879.		1880.		Total.		Increase.	Decrease.
	Up.	Down.	Up.	Down.	1879.	1880.		
Coal			7,406			7,305		
Food-grain			4,095	35,456		37,791		
Hides and horns			6	1,657		1,663		
Indigo								
Iron			244	18		261		
Opium								
Piece-goods			3,773			2,773		
Railway material			125	175		300		
Seeds, indigo								
Seeds, oil			34	7,078		7,112		
Saltpetre				3,765		3,765		
Salt			9,850	66		9,916		
Sugar, ballast			8,113			8,135		
Sugar			311	11,028		11,339		
Tobacco			1,183	510		1,693		
Miscellaneous goods			8,080	18,374		27,354		
Total			63,143	76,717		1,18,960		

Somastipore, the 18th March 1880.

A. W. Pore, Asst. Traffic Supdt.

Weekly Return of Traffic Receipts on Indian Railways.

EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 20th March 1880 on 1,507½ miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.				MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.				TOTAL TRAFFIC RECEIPTS.	TRAIN MILES RUN.		
	No. of passen- gers.	Coaching receipts.		Weight carried.	Receipts.		Coach- ing.	Merchan- dise.		Total.		
		Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.		Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.						
Total traffic for the week...	159,042	2,32,677 11 3	21,328 15 10	14,03,294 20	6,76,929 3 9	61,989 6 11	2,05,397 14 0	102,511	114,749	167,260		
Or per mile of railway	.....	134 5 11	14 8 0	.....	448 7 2	41 2 3	1,02 13 1	.....	.....	.....
For previous 10 weeks of half-year	1,646,936	25,03,630 0 0	229,400 9 4	1,68,80,720 0	67,13,506 3 3	615,404 14 0	62,76,136 12 8	544,703	11,33,034	1,603,434		
Total for 11 weeks	1,805,968	27,36,308 4 3	230,828 8 2	1,78,74,010 20	73,89,436 6 0	677,361 1 8	401,39,736 10 3	397,115	1,238,693	1,835,708		
COMPARISON.												
Total for corresponding week of previous year	163,022	2,73,114 8 8	25,035 9 5	15,26,846 10	6,07,094 5 9	55,705 6 4	6,99,808 9 5	53,608	113,609	167,007		
Per mile of railway, corresponding week of previous year	.....	181 8 2	16 12 2	.....	403 2 11	36 10 2	584 8 1	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year	1,826,093	25,09,754 4 3	257,560 16 2	1,87,28,485 0	73,33,016 2 7	672,275 11 1	1,01,43,080 6 10	614,746	1,431,066	3,045,912		

EASTERN BENGAL RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 20th March 1880 on 171½ miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.				MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.				Total receipts.
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.		Weight carried.	Receipts.				
Total traffic for the week	36,131	Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.	Mds. s.	Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.	Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.	
Or per mile of railway	210	27,791 0 0	2,547 19 2	1,80,792 6	23,189 0 0	2,043 19 10	5,151 10 0	29 17 7	
For previous 11 weeks of half-year	431,624	4,10,447 11 8	37,624 7 5	21,69,386 24	4,00,620 11 2	36,729 11 9	74,367 19 7	74,367 19 7	
Total for 12 weeks	467,755	4,38,233 11 8	40,171 17 7	23,59,168 24	4,28,909 11 2	39,497 11 2	79,179 8 9	79,179 8 9	
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year	41,583	34,570 8 11	5,168 19 5	1,45,031 2	27,571 6 4	2,527 7 6	3,096 6 11	3,096 6 11	
Per mile of railway, corresponding week of previous year	242	201 4 7	18 9 0	844 17	160 8 0	14 14 4	33 3 4	33 3 4	
Total to corresponding date of previous year	455,516	4,39,809 13 9	40,324 8 3	18,54,393 36	3,44,903 1 8	31,616 2 2	71,940 8 5	71,940 8 5	

BENGAL PROVINCIAL RAILWAYS.

Weekly Statement of Traffic Receipts.

No. 7.

Latest return received.	Name of Railway.	Length open.	RECEIPTS FOR WEEK ENDING		TOTAL RECEIPTS FROM 1ST JANUARY		Total increase in 1880.	Total decrease in 1880.
			22nd February 1879.	21st February 1880.	To 22nd February 1879.	To 21st February 1880.		
			Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.		
1880.		Miles.						
21st February	Northern Bengal	230	25,711 0 0	24,031 0 0	1,57,707 0 0	2,22,395 0 0	64,688 0 0	.....
6th March	Tirhoot	82	9,892 0 0	11,079 0 0	74,103 0 0	74,683 0 0	.....	580
13th do	Calcutta and South-Eastern	28	2,779 0 0	2,150 0 0	24,120 0 0	19,087 0 0	.....	503
21st February	Nalundi	27	2,928 0 0	1,694 0 0	13,471 0 0	12,484 0 0	.....	887
6th March	Patna and Gya	57	.....	6,831 0 0	.....	63,547 0 0	63,547 0 0	.....
	Total	424	40,410 0 0	45,675 0 0	2,65,531 0 0	3,91,876 0 0	1,26,345 0 0	1,880



SUPPLEMENT TO The Calcutta Gazette.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7, 1880.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

Non-Subscribers to the GAZETTE may receive the SUPPLEMENT separately on payment of Six Rupees per annum if delivered in Calcutta, or Twelve Rupees if sent by Post.

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Proceedings of the Council of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal for the purpose of making Laws and Regulations.

Saturday, the 20th March 1880.

Present:

HIS HONOR THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR OF BENGAL, *presiding*,
 The Hon'ble G. C. PAUL, C.I.E., *Advocate-General*,
 The Hon'ble C. T. BUCKLAND,
 The Hon'ble H. L. DAMPIER,
 The Hon'ble A. MACKENZIE,
 The Hon'ble J. O'KINEALY,
 The Hon'ble SYUD AMEER HOSSEIN,
 The Hon'ble KRISTODAS PAL, RAI BAHADOOR, C.I.E.,
 The Hon'ble J. B. KNIGHT, C.I.E.,
 The Hon'ble C. D. FIELD, LL.D.,
 The Hon'ble PEARY MOHUN MOOKERJEE,
 and
 The Hon'ble F. PRESTAGE.

NEW MEMBER.

THE HON'BLE MR. PRESTAGE took his seat in Council.

COMPULSORY VACCINATION.

THE HON'BLE KRISTODAS PAL said last week he explained to the Council the reasons and objects of the Bill to make vaccination compulsory. He

proposed now to give a brief outline of its main provisions. The Bill had been drafted chiefly on the lines of the Bombay Vaccination Act, with such alterations and modifications as the circumstances of this province had called for. The preliminary chapter of the Bill contained certain definitions to which he need not refer at any length. The sections providing for vaccination first of all prescribed that children should within one year after their birth be vaccinated; secondly, that unprotected children under fourteen, who were brought to reside in the city temporarily or permanently, should be vaccinated; thirdly, that the parents or guardians of unprotected children living within the city, or in any portion of the suburbs to which the Bill might extend, should within six months of the passing of the Act cause them to be vaccinated. Then the Bill provided for the vaccination of unprotected adults; and lastly, for the vaccination of seamen arriving in the Port of Calcutta. The vaccination of adults was a new feature in this Bill; that provision did not obtain in the Bombay Act, but it had been found from experience that small-pox was often brought into the city by unprotected persons, and it was therefore of the utmost importance that measures should be taken for the vaccination of adults. The vaccination of seamen was left to the Health Officer of the Port of Calcutta. The Bill did not lay down any hard-and-fast rules about the character of the lymph to be used for vaccination. The subject of the kind of lymph which ought to be used, as the Council was well aware, was a matter of much controversy amongst scientific men both in Europe and America; experiments were going on in several European countries with calf lymph, and in the Bombay Act the use of animal lymph had been made obligatory. But the preponderance of medical opinion here seemed to be that it would be best to leave the matter open at present, and to let the Government which would supply the lymph supply that kind of lymph which might be in accord with the scientific opinion of the day. He should mention that in Bengal, and throughout Upper India he believed, arm-to-arm vaccination was generally practised, and human lymph was used. If, however, experience or mature scientific opinion should tend to the other direction, he dared say the Government would take necessary steps to provide a supply of that kind of lymph which would be most acceptable to the public. The ancient books of Hindoo medicine, he might say, were more in favour of calf than human lymph.

Under the Bombay Act the vaccinators were allowed to levy a fee for vaccination, and to apply it to their own use. The Bombay Act laid down no limit to the amount of fee to be levied. The Bill before the Council prescribed a maximum limit of eight annas, which he hoped would be considered moderate enough. It would be carried to the credit of the Municipality of Calcutta, which would be charged with the cost of the vaccination establishment; and in the case of the Mofussil it would be credited and expended in such manner as the Government might direct. Practically the vaccinators now charged a fee; it was a voluntary offering, but it was nevertheless charged and paid by the people. Now it was proposed to remunerate the vaccinators liberally, and to carry the fees to the credit of the Vaccination Fund.

The procedure laid down for Calcutta was different from that which was provided for the Mofussil. In Calcutta the Health Officer of the town would be put in charge of the department, and would act under such rules and regulations as the Lieutenant-Governor might lay down. Calcutta would be divided into different sections and wards, and public vaccine stations would be established in each, or, where the wards were small, two of them might be conveniently doubled up and one vaccine station provided for them; and, on the other hand, two or three vaccine stations might be established in the larger wards. Persons resorting to the vaccine stations would not be charged any fee whatever, but those who might call in the vaccinators to their own houses would be required to pay the fee. With regard to females who, according to the custom of the country, did not appear in public, the Lieutenant-Governor would make rules for their gratuitous vaccination.

The Bombay Act provided criminal imprisonment for neglect to vaccinate, but in this Bill the penalty of a fine was proposed, and no imprisonment was provided for neglect to vaccinate. A fine of Rs. 100, with a daily fine of Rs. 20 for every day during which the offence was continued, would, BABOO

KRISTODAS PAL thought, act as a sufficient deterrent against neglect. Prosecutions under the Act would be by summons. This was an important point, and he believed the provision would be acceptable to the general public.

Lastly, the Bill gave power to the Lieutenant-Governor to make rules to provide for the appointment of deputies of public vaccinators when necessary; to determine the qualifications to be required of public vaccinators or their deputies; to regulate the gratuitous vaccination of females who, by the custom of the country, were unable to attend the public vaccine stations, and were too poor to pay; to provide for the supply of lymph; to regulate the books and forms to be kept by public vaccinators and registrars; and for the guidance of public vaccinators and others in all matters connected with the working of the Act.

He was informed that a suggestion had come from the Government of India to the effect that, when the Bill was extended to first and second class municipalities, opportunity should be given to the inhabitants of those places to express their opinion before the Act was introduced. That was the procedure now followed in the Panjab with regard to the introduction of the municipal law; this suggestion would be duly taken into consideration by the Select Committee to whom the Bill would be referred. He now moved that the Bill be read in Council.

The HON'BLE PEARY MOHUN MOOKERJEE said there was a provision in the Bill for extending its operation to the suburbs of Calcutta, thus making provision for intercepting the disease from without. But the Bill took no cognizance of the poor and houseless boys in the city itself. The number of poor boys who had no parents or guardians in the sense defined in the Bill might be counted by scores, if not by hundreds, and there was no one who, according to the provisions of the Bill, would be responsible for their vaccination, nor would they be reached by the power conferred on the Superintendent of Vaccination by section 11, enabling him to require unprotected persons to submit to be vaccinated. These poor boys therefore might catch the disease and form centres of contagion. But there was another consideration connected with this question which should not be lost sight of. Supposing that ways and means were found for giving protection to these poor boys, it was a question as to who would feed and take care of them during the stage of feverishness which very often supervened vaccination. A number of these boys would be unable to move or go about to earn their living, and it was but just to them that they should not be allowed to suffer by reason of a compulsory operation which was extended to them, not only for their own benefit, but for the protection of the community at large. He would beg therefore to suggest that provision should be made in the Bill for the establishment of pauper vaccine hospitals in the city. The money that would be required for such institutions was no doubt an important consideration, but he submitted that it would not be improper to expend the money derived from the fees to be levied under the Act for the benefit of these poor boys, who might take it into their heads to prove their brotherhood to the good citizens of Calcutta in the same terrible way in which the Irish widow mentioned by Carlisle proved her sisterhood to the people of Edinburgh.

He was glad that the one other point with reference to this Bill, to which he intended briefly to allude, had already received the attention of the Government of India; he meant that provision of the Bill which related to extending the operation of the law to Mofussil municipalities and villages. In Calcutta, hon'ble members had been told, on the authority of Dr. Charles, that ninety-five per cent. of the population had accepted vaccination as the best means of affording protection against small-pox; but in the Mofussil opinion was not so strong in favour of vaccination, and that was not a matter for wonder, when it was recollected that great diversity of opinion prevailed on the subject even in England itself. He therefore thought it advisable that the introduction of the law should be confined to those municipalities and towns at least, half the population of which should apply for its introduction.

The HON'BLE MR. MACKENZIE said there was only one point in which he wished to supplement the very careful statement which had been made by the hon'ble mover of the Bill, and that was in reference to the change which the Bill proposed to make in the re-arrangement and working of vaccine operations

in Calcutta. The Council knew that those operations had for many years been supervised by Dr. Charles under the title of Superintendent-General of Vaccination. How ably he had done this work was well known; that Calcutta was now in a fairly satisfactory state as regards protection from small-pox was due entirely to the exertions and the care with which Dr. Charles had managed the business in his hands. The measure now before Council was merely the natural outcome of all Dr. Charles's labours. But it was agreed, when this compulsory system was proposed, that it would require for its management and careful supervision more time than an officer like Dr. Charles, with all his numerous duties, could possibly give to it, and it was felt that the Sanitary Officer of the town was the proper person to undertake the work with the agency at his disposal. It would not be supposed, Mr. MACKENZIE was sure, that any slight was intended to be put on Dr. Charles by the proposed transfer; he himself concurred in the change, and was of opinion that, as vaccination was to be made compulsory, the work should be done in a more systematic way; and the Government was therefore relieving him of a duty which it would not be easy for him any longer to perform.

HIS HONOR THE PRESIDENT said, with reference to the observations which had been made regarding the treatment and cure after vaccination of vagrant boys, if sufficient provision was not made by section 11 of the Bill, some alteration might be made to meet the case. But, as he understood it, the matter was sufficiently provided for by that section, and if hospital treatment was needed, it could be afforded by the Campbell Hospital, which was just as much open to cases of fever from vaccination as from any other cause. It was quite open to the Select Committee to make any suggestion it thought fit.

HIS HONOR desired to express his entire concurrence in the remarks which had been made by the hon'ble member on the right (Mr. Mackenzie) with respect to Dr. Charles. He was sure it was not the wish of anybody who had watched the extraordinary progress and success of vaccination in the city to do anything that might cast any reflection or slur on Dr. Charles's administration of vaccine operations; the fact was that it was through him, and his great attention to the matter, that the business of the department had become so large that the Government was compelled to make special provision for the conduct of the work, and HIS HONOR was sure that Dr. Charles ought to be extremely proud of the work he had done, and that nothing would gratify him more than the passing of this Bill—a measure which he himself suggested should be passed some fourteen years ago. On that occasion HIS HONOR opposed the proposal, as vaccination had not then made sufficient progress to warrant the adoption of a compulsory measure. But since that time the question had assumed a different complexion, and whatever objections HIS HONOR had then to the proposal, they had now disappeared, and it was chiefly through Dr. Charles's exertions that the change of circumstances which rendered a compulsory measure justifiable now had been brought about.

RECOVERY OF PUBLIC DEMANDS.

THE HON'BLE MR. FIELD moved that the Bill to amend the law for the recovery of certain public demands be read in Council. He said:—"When I asked leave on Saturday last to introduce this Bill, I pointed out what the object of the measure was. I said briefly that it was a measure to repeal such portions of Act VII of 1868 of the Bengal Council as are concerned with the recovery of public demands, and to re-enact them in a complete and amended form. I also stated what the nature of the procedure was which that Act laid down for the recovery of such demands, namely that a public officer makes a Certificate that a certain amount is due, and on that Certificate as a decree proceedings are taken to realize the amount so declared to be due. Opportunity is given to the person against whom the Certificate has been made to come in and make any objection he has to the amount being realized, and in certain classes of cases it is competent to that person further to contest the whole proceedings on the merits in the Civil Court.

I propose now to draw attention to the particular points in which this Bill proposes to amend the former procedure. First as to section 1, the procedure is expressly extended to the town of Calcutta. Under the existing law there was a doubt upon this point, and it has been considered desirable to remove

that doubt. The purpose for which this procedure is particularly required in Calcutta is to realize the land revenue due on plots of land within the city. There is at present an Act of the Supreme Legislature, XXIII of 1850, which provides a certain mode of realizing that land revenue, namely by distress and sale. This Bill does not propose to interfere with that procedure, and has been so drafted as to leave it to the Revenue Authorities to adopt either procedure which they may think advisable.

The next point to which I invite attention is in section 3. It is there provided that every Certificate made under the provisions of the former Act, which will be repealed if this Bill become law, may be enforced under the provisions of this Act.

In section 4 a change is proposed to be made which has been found very desirable. Under the existing law the Collector of the district is alone competent to make a Certificate. It is possibly known to all the members of this Council that within the last few years the administration of districts has been sub-divided, and that the formation of sub-divisions has been effected to a very large extent, the officers in charge of such sub-divisions being vested with powers very nearly the same as those of a Collector. It is therefore proposed that all officers in charge of sub-divisions shall exercise the same powers under the new Act which the Collector has under the existing Act. In section 5 are enumerated the cases in respect of which a Certificate Absolute may be made; they are *first*, the cases in which an estate has been sold for arrears of its own revenue, and the proceeds of such sale are insufficient to liquidate the arrears of revenue due; and *secondly*, when arrears are due from a farmer. In both these cases the Collector is empowered to make a Certificate, and that Certificate it will not be competent under the law for the person against whom it is made to dispute upon the merits in a Civil Court. This merely follows what has been the practice in this country for very nearly a century.

I now come to section 6, which attempts to enumerate all the cases in the existing law to which it is desirable to extend the Certificate Procedure. The first clause of this section includes any sum of money which by any law for the time being in force is declared to be recoverable or realizable as an arrear of revenue or land revenue, or by the process prescribed for the recovery of arrears of revenue or of the public or Government revenue. This language may at first sight appear somewhat complicated; but the fact is that it has been so worded in order to take in a large number of cases covered by the old Regulations in which the language used is not uniform, and I have so drafted the clause in order to make it applicable to all those old Regulations in which language essentially the same, but differing in its form of expression, has been used. Clause 2 applies to any sum of money due from the sureties of a farmer in respect of the revenue of the estate farmed by him. Here there is no change. Then clause 3 takes in a number of Acts of the Bengal Council under which certain demands, moneys, dues, fees, duties, and so forth may become due to Government; and which demands, fees, duties, and so forth it is thought desirable to realize under this procedure. Many of these are so realizable under the existing Acts, and this Bill only collects them and adds one or two more which were formerly overlooked. Clause 4 of section 6 in the same way provides for the realization of tolls due from farmers under the Canals Act, 1864, or from the sureties of such farmers. Clause 5 applies to arrears of rent due from a person having charge of a ferry under Regulation VI of 1819. Clause 6 relates to any arrears of revenue or rent payable to Government from any ryot, or from any person holding any interest in land, pasturage, forest rights, fisheries, and the like: this is not a new section, it is an addition to the Act of 1868 made by the amending Act of 1875. These cases are cases of rent due to Government. It has been thought—and that is an opinion in which I entirely concur—that that which would be rent if paid to the zemindar is, when payable to Government, not rent, but revenue, and this clause merely makes this particular revenue realizable under a procedure which has been in substance usual for very many years in these provinces. I then come to clause 7, which proposes to extend the special procedure to the recovery of rents in estates which, under any law for the time being, are under the management of the Court of Wards. This is a new provision, and I am prepared to admit

that it is a provision which carries the principle of the Bill to its extremest limits. I have no doubt that it will be carefully considered in Select Committee, and if it be thought desirable that this procedure should be made applicable to the recovery of rent in these particular estates, clause 7 will hold its place in the Bill.

The next point to which I shall refer is rule 2 of section 6. It has there been made more clear than it is in the existing law that any person against whom a Certificate for certain demands has been made may contest that Certificate on the merits in a Civil Court. I may note by the way that I have introduced a new nomenclature, calling a Certificate which may not be disputed in the Civil Court a *Certificate Absolute*, and one which may be disputed on the merits a *Certificate Conditional*. In the existing law there is no provision made as to any length of time within which a *Certificate Conditional* shall become absolute. I have introduced a limitation of one year, and the section provides that if the party against whom a Certificate Conditional is made, fails to contest it in the Civil Court for the period of one year, it shall then become a Certificate Absolute, or, in other words, that it cannot be contested or disputed after the lapse of one year.

The next point to which I invite attention is section 7. Under the present law certain classes of public officers to whom money is payable are allowed to notify that fact to the Collector, and the Collector on receipt of such notification proceeds to make a Certificate. It is now proposed to extend this procedure to Managers appointed by the Court of Wards; in other words, it is proposed to allow Managers to notify to the Collector of the district that such and such a sum is due as rent from persons holding land in estates under the management of the Court of Wards, and thereupon the Collector is empowered to issue a Certificate for the realization of the rent as a public demand. The section as drafted makes no provision for the levy of stamp duty on Certificates for the recovery of rent due to Wards' estates; but in Select Committee, if the section is allowed to stand, it will become necessary to protect the public revenue against loss by providing that such notices from Managers to the Collector shall bear such stamps as would be imposed on plaints filed in the Civil Court for the recovery of the same amount.

I now pass to section 9. Under the Act of 1868, as soon as a Certificate is made, and notice of its having been made served on the person against whom it is made, it may be enforced against the immovable property belonging to such person; there was no similar provision as to movable property, and it has occurred in the course of the experience of the last ten or twelve years that the public revenue has suffered in consequence of a person who had no immovable property having received notice of a Certificate having been made, and then made use of the month allowed for objecting to make away with the movable property, which otherwise would have been sufficient to satisfy the Government demand. The section therefore proposes to give to the Collector power similar to what every Civil Court possesses, namely a power analogous to that of attachment before judgment. This power is to be exercised by the Collector, not in all cases generally, but only when he is satisfied that the person concerned is likely to conceal or remove or dispose of the whole or a great part of his movable property.

I next invite attention to section 11. That section proposes to allow the Collector to make over to any Deputy Collector subordinate to him a case in which objection has been raised, and which therefore necessitates the taking of evidence and a judicial adjudication. It has occurred in several districts, notably in one district, that the amount of work arising out of the existing Act was so large that the Collector himself could not get through it without detriment to the efficient performance of his other duties. These cases are commonly simple, and every adjudication of a Deputy Collector will be appealable to the Collector. As a further safeguard, the Commissioner is empowered by rule 3 of the same section, in any case in which he thinks fit, to consider and revise any order passed either by a Collector or Deputy Collector. Under the present Act, in the case of farmers, and in the case of demands which are payable to the Collector himself, who makes the Certificate, it is necessary to give notice to the individual concerned, and no Certificate can be made until the expiry of one month after the giving of notice. The present Bill proposes to dispense

with this preliminary notice and so get rid of the month's delay which results therefrom; it provides that, as soon as the Certificate is made, a full month shall be allowed to raise objections before proceedings are taken for enforcing the Certificate. This is a point as to which there is some doubt under the existing Act. In some districts Collectors consider themselves at liberty, having made the Certificate, to proceed at once to the realization of the amount stated therein. In other districts it is held that no steps can be taken by way of execution until the month has expired. In the Bill it is made clear that a full month is to be allowed for objecting before the Collector can take proceedings. Thus no real injury can be done to the parties concerned even in those very exceptional cases in which the Collector has made the Certificate under a mistake.

In section 12 provision has been made for applying the sections of the Code of Civil Procedure relating to insolvent judgment-debtors to persons who have become debtors under this Act. A case occurred in the Chittagong district which was brought before the High Court, and it was decided that under the existing law these sections of the Code of Civil Procedure do not apply. It has been thought desirable that the debtors of Government should in this respect enjoy the same facility which has been conceded to the debtors of private persons.

In section 14 provision has been made for receiving payment of a demand, in respect of which a Certificate has been made, by instalments. No such provision exists in the present Act, and I am informed that the omission of such a provision has unduly tied the hands of the Collector in the case of persons who are ready to pay, but in consequence of circumstances over which they have no control are unable to pay the whole amount all at once.

The last provision is that contained in section 15 of the Bill. It is there proposed to protect the Collector and every public officer concerned from any civil suit for any act done, or required to be done, by him in the discharge of his duty under the Act. This merely extends to Collectors and other officers acting under the Bill the protection given to judicial officers by Act XVIII of 1850, the provisions of which Act are well known to the Council. The Collector and other public officers acting under this Bill will really be discharging judicial functions; and it is reasonable to afford them the same protection which the existing law gives to all judicial officers. I may mention in connection with this section that no protection is proposed to be given to the Managers of Wards' estates, and that if the present form of the Bill be retained so as to enable the Collector to make a Certificate on the requisition of such Managers, they will in no way be protected from the consequences of any neglect or inaction on their part to the disadvantage of the person injuriously affected thereby."

The HON'BLE KRISTODAS PAL said he congratulated the hon'ble member on the clearness of the arrangement of the Bill, and added that he generally concurred in its provisions. But there was one provision in it to which he took exception, and which the hon'ble mover had himself approached in hesitating terms. He referred to clause 7 of section 6. That clause was not a matter of detail, but involved a very important question of principle; it was whether the recovery of rent in respect of estates or tenures in charge of the Court of Wards should be brought within the purview of the certificate procedure prescribed in the Bill. The hon'ble mover in his Statement of Objects and Reason has stated that the certificate procedure was so summary that it ought to be used very carefully. He said—

"Commissioners and Collectors were then consulted in order to ascertain if in the course of practice other instances had arisen of public demands not falling within the purview of Act VII (B.O.) of 1868, but which might well be made recoverable under its provisions. Some officers were in favour of a very wide extension of this special procedure, and would make it applicable to all sums, liquidated or unliquidated, payable to the officers of Government, whether acting on behalf of Government or on behalf of private individuals, whose property or estates have by law come under the management of those officers. Having carefully considered the matter, I have come to the conclusion that any such unlimited extension of what is in fact a summary procedure would not be safe or advisable. In this view I am confirmed by what the Legal Remembrancer has communicated to me about the working of the present Act."

Still, BABOO KRISTODAS PAL submitted with due deference, inconsistently enough the hon'ble mover had included the recovery of the rents of estates

under the Court of Wards in this measure. Arrears of rent did not come under the category of State demands which would justify an exceptional procedure. The Collector being in charge of Wards' estates was, so to speak, interested in the management of such estates; but under the procedure laid down in the Bill, he would be the judge in cases connected with those estates. That, BABOO KRISTODAS PAL submitted, was opposed to right principle. Rent suits sometimes involved questions of right and other complicated matters which were best left to be dealt with by the civil courts.

It was observable that the certificate of the Collector under this Bill in respect of this class of cases would not be absolute, but, as the hon'ble mover called it, "conditional," and that liberty was given to the aggrieved party to apply to the civil court for redress within a year of the making of the certificate. If, then, it was considered necessary that the ultimate remedy should be sought for in the civil court, he did not see the necessity of providing for that class of cases the summary procedure of a certificate; it would only lead to additional expense, trouble, and harassment, and he considered it much better that the procedure should be simplified, and suits for the recovery of rent dealt with by the civil court at once, than that the certificate procedure should be first gone through as provided in this Bill, and the same thing should be gone over again in a regular way before the civil court. As the subject of the simplification of the procedure for the recovery of arrears of rent was now before a Commission, and as he believed a Bill would be soon submitted by that Commission, he thought it would be well to leave the question of the realization of arrears of rent in estates in the hands of the Court of Wards to the general law. He would therefore strongly oppose the introduction of this provision in the Bill.

THE HON'BLE MR. DAMPIER said there were two points which it was right he should notice, because this Bill originated from the Board of Revenue, and had been prepared in consultation with him, and he was partly answerable for it. The first point was in connection with what had fallen from the hon'ble mover regarding the town of Calcutta; on further consideration MR. DAMPIER thought they should do better perhaps to leave Calcutta out of the operation of the Bill. Under the Certificate Act the High Court held that the certificate procedure ousted all other procedures which were prescribed by special Acts; if the certificate procedure was adopted, no other procedure could be used, it was in supersession of all others which the Collector had. It was not quite clear whether the existing Act applied to Calcutta or not. Upon that decision of the High Court a reference was made to the Board as to whether the decision prevented the use of the certificate procedure in Calcutta; and in order to make the matter quite clear, a provision relating to Calcutta was introduced in this Bill. But MR. DAMPIER thought it would be sufficient if it were made clear that this Bill did not apply to Calcutta, but he would make further enquiries on the subject.

He would now approach the other question, and he was not surprised to hear the hon'ble mover of the Bill, who had so recently taken his seat in this Council, speak of it as if it was a new question, and had never received the attention of the Council. But hon'ble members who had been in Council for some years, and were acquainted with the history of its proceedings, would remember that this point was not now approached for the first time. It was a *vezata questio* whether rent in Wards' estates should or should not be recoverable by the summary procedure which was provided for the recovery of public demands. He was not going now to speak on the principle, but he would remind the Council of the history of this question. Going back to Regulation VII of 1799, the procedure for the recovery of rents in Wards' estates was the summary procedure prescribed for the recovery of rents in Government estates, and it was so even in estates under the management of surburakars. Again, in Bengal Act IV of 1870, section 75, which was passed after full discussion, provided that farmers and others holding tenures in estates in charge of the Court direct from the Collector should be subject to the same Rules, Regulations and Acts as were applicable to other persons holding similar tenures and interests under Collectors of land revenue; but when the farm was held from the manager, those Rules, Regulations and Acts should not apply. It was therefore clear that, where the management of

Wards' estates was directly under the Collector, this procedure might be used, but not where there was a manager. But then came the construction put by the High Court upon the meaning of the words "holding direct from the Collector." The Court interpreted these words to apply only to those farmers and others whose tenures and holdings had been created since the Collector came into the management of the estate. That, however, was certainly not the intention of the Council, however imperfectly their intention might have been expressed in the law. Their intention was to draw the distinction between tenants on estates managed by the Collector without the intervention of a manager, and those to which a manager under the Act was appointed. When the Court of Wards' Act of last year came up in Council, the subject was discussed and considered. Section 63 of Act IX of 1879 provided that "all arrears of rent due by farmers, undertenants, and ryots in respect of property under the charge of the Court (whether such rents have become due before or after the Court has taken charge) shall be recoverable as arrears of revenue, and shall constitute a demand under Bengal Act VII of 1868, or any similar Act for the time being in force;" and that that provision was not passed without consideration would be observed from the next clause of the section, which enacted that "the last preceding clause shall not apply to arrears of rent enhanced after issue of notice under section 13 of Act X of 1859, or under section 14 of Bengal Act VIII of 1869, but of which the enhancement has not been agreed to by the person who is liable to pay the same, or has not been confirmed by a competent court." After passing that section of the Wards' Act, it was thought that the matter was set at rest, but unfortunately under the certificate procedure the certificate must be for money due to the Collector or other officer; if the money was due to any other officer than the Collector, that officer had to make a demand on the Collector, and the Collector had thereupon to issue a certificate, and some one raised the question whether the manager of a ward's estate was any "other officer" within the meaning of the law; it was said that "other officer" meant other officer of the same class as the Collector. The money was not due to the Collector, because it was the ward's money; therefore he could not make a certificate that the money was due to himself, and therefore he could only make it on the demand of some other officer; and no "other officer" existed who was legally competent to certify that the amount was due. Thus the section could not be worked at all. The matter was then referred for the opinion of the highest law officer of Government, and he advised that the manager of a ward's estate did come under the denomination of "other officer;" thus fortified, Mr. DAMPIER felt himself justified in letting things take their course. Then in an evil moment he, as it was considered doubtful, had thought it desirable that the opportunity of the amendment of the Public Demands Act should be taken to remove all ground of doubt and to make it quite clear that the manager was the "other officer," and thereupon the hon'ble mover of the Bill before the Council got up and announced that in this respect he was introducing a new provision altogether.

Loss of stamp revenue had been referred to. Mr. DAMPIER might mention that in some Wards' estates the Government revenue was falling into arrears because the rents could not be collected, and this not only in small estates, but in large ones, and being estates in charge of the Court of Wards they could not be sold for arrears of revenue. So far therefore the withdrawal of any facility for collecting rents in Wards' estates would jeopardize the land revenue.

The HON'BLE the ADVOCATE-GENERAL only wished to add a few words to what had already been said. He quite supported the hon'ble member who had just spoken that this provision did not for the first time state a proposition of law new to the revenue procedure of the country, but it was enacted with the view of giving the existing law precision; and if the principle was now discussed, and this clause of the Bill was removed, the Council would be altering a law which had existed for a great number of years. Although an estate managed by the Court of Wards was not a Government estate, still the Government was to a certain extent directly interested in the collection of the rents of that estate. When an estate came under the charge of the Court of Wards it could not be sold for arrears of revenue, and it behoved the

officer in charge to get in the rent (as speedily as possible) in order to pay the Government revenue, and in that way the collection of rents in Wards' estates became a matter as important to the Government as its own revenue.

THE HON'BLE MR. O'KINEALY said he agreed with the learned Advocate-General and the hon'ble member on his left (MR. DAMPIER), that since the beginning of the British rule in India realizations of rent in Wards' estates were subject to exactly the same procedure as that in Government estates, and the reason was that the Government having taken charge of the estates and looked after them, considered itself justified in recovering amounts due to the estate by the same process as in Government estates. Up to the passing of Act IV of 1870 that was the law, but in that Act there was a distinction made between lands held under the Collector and lands held under a manager appointed by the Court of Wards, and that procedure had been followed up to the present day. He was not inclined to extend the procedure of the present Bill to managers; he did not think as a rule that the managers of the Court of Wards were much better than the ordinary agents connected with zemindars' estates; and he felt that to allow a manager to say that such and such an amount was due to him without requiring any further guarantee of the correctness of his statement, was really going too far. He would be very much inclined to allow the procedure proposed in the Bill to stand if the statement of the manager was made upon oath, so that he could be prosecuted if he made a statement which he did not know to be true; but as the provision now stood, MR. O'KINEALY did not think the Council would be justified in sanctioning its enactment.

THE HON'BLE MR. FIELD said that the point to which he intended to invite attention as being new was this, the allowing the Collector, on the requisition of a Manager under the Court of Wards, to make a Certificate. He was well aware that under all the Court of Wards' Regulations and Acts up to the present date, rent payable *directly to the Collector* was recoverable under the special procedure—a procedure analogous to it; but he believed that until a very short time back the question whether rent payable, not directly to the Collector, but to Managers under the Court of Wards, was recoverable under this procedure had never directly been raised or discussed. The question, it might be urged, was not new in principle; he contended as a matter of fact that it was new in practice—new in the instance. The Act of 1875, which amended the Act of 1868, ran thus:—"Any arrears of rent payable to a Collector in charge of an estate or tenure on behalf of a private person, &c." The Court of Wards, Act passed last year omitted the words "to a Collector," but it made arrears of rent due by farmers, undertenants and ryots in respect of property under the charge of the Court recoverable as arrears of revenue. A doubt then arose whether rent, if recoverable as arrears of revenue, and if payable, not to the Collector, but to a Manager, came within the definition of the word "demand." That led to the consideration whether "any officer other than a Collector" in section 19 of the Act of 1868 could be interpreted to include a Manager under the Court of Wards. There was one opinion that it meant any officer *ejusdem generis*, of the same class, that is to say, any public officer. The other view was that "any officer" might be interpreted to include a Manager. He did not think it necessary to intimate what his view was: but until that question arose, the question, whether the Collector could on the requisition of a Manager under the Court of Wards issue a Certificate, was a question certainly new to the outside public, and new in practice under the Act of 1868.

HIS HONOR THE PRESIDENT, before putting the question that the Bill be read in Council, would say, as regards the question of principle that had been raised, that he must admit it seemed to have a great deal of force and reason in it, and it was a subject which the Select Committee should carefully consider. It was not a matter which the Council could raise and dispose of off-hand. He understood it was not the intention of the hon'ble member who raised this question to move a specific amendment, but to request that the Select Committee should consider it. It might be quite true, as the hon'ble member on the right (MR. DAMPIER) said, that the history of this principle, although it had been rather confused at times, had been generally to affirm that

there should be a special procedure for the recovery of demands in estates under the management of Government officers, even though they were not the property of Government. His Honor did not think it necessary to go back to the practice of 1799, because the summary procedure which existed then was not the present certificate procedure, and bore no sort of resemblance to it. Then in the Act of 1870 a clear distinction was drawn in section 4 as to estates managed *khas* and those managed through a manager or agent, and he thought the necessity for making that distinction showed how unsound was the principle of bringing Wards' estates under the procedure of that Act; the section provided that under direct management of the Collector the special procedure might be accepted, but not where Wards' estates were under the charge of managers, showing the doubts that existed in the minds of the framers of that measure. Therefore it could not be said that the principle of the provision in the present Bill was absolutely affirmed in 1870. It would no doubt be said that if the special procedure was absolutely necessary to ensure the recovery of a sufficient amount of rent to meet the Government demand, the same security was necessary for all estates in the country. It should be remembered that special powers were given to Government, because it was not holding as a private individual, but as a trustee for the public. Government had no individual interests in the collection of its dues and was not likely to be influenced by selfish or unjust motives, but that was not the case where the interests of a private estate were concerned. Where estates were managed by the Court of Wards it was not the interests of the public which were being guarded and protected, but the interests of a private individual, the loss or profit did not affect the public revenues, but the revenues of a private estate, and therefore the question of Wards' estates differed altogether from Government estates. Then, further, the wholesale adoption in such cases of this procedure would be a serious injury to the public revenue, because, if the special procedure were applied to the recovery of rent in all Wards' estates, the loss of revenue under the Stamp Act would be very large indeed. On the whole, he thought it desirable that the Select Committee should consider very carefully the whole principle whether the grounds which made it necessary to have a summary procedure for the recovery of Government demands applied to the management of Wards' estates. He should be very glad, in consequence of what had passed, if the Committee would give to the subject their serious consideration when the Bill was laid before them.

The motion was then agreed to, and the Bill referred to a Select Committee consisting of the Hon'ble the Advocate-General, the Hon'ble Mr. Dampier, the Hon'ble Mr. O'Kinealy, the Hon'ble Syud Ameer Hossein, the Hon'ble Kristodas Pal, the Hon'ble Peary Mohun Mookerjee, and the mover, with instructions to report in a fortnight.

**Proceedings of the Council of the Lieutenant-Governor
of Bengal for the purpose of making
Laws and Regulations.**

Thursday, the 25th March 1880.

PRESENT :

HIS HONOR THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR OF BENGAL, *Presiding.*
 The HON'BLE C. T. BUCKLAND,
 The HON'BLE H. L. DAMPIER,
 The HON'BLE A. MACKENZIE,
 The HON'BLE J. O'KINKALY,
 The HON'BLE SYED AMEER HOSSEIN,
 The HON'BLE KRISTODAS PAL, C.I.E., RAI BAHADOOR,
 The HON'BLE C. D. FIELD, LL.D.,
 and
 The HON'BLE PEARY MOHUN MOOKERJEE.

HOWRAH BRIDGE ACT, AMENDMENT.

THE HON'BLE MR. MACKENZIE moved for leave to bring in a Bill to amend the Howrah Bridge Act, 1871. Under Act IX of 1871, which provided for the construction and maintenance of the Howrah Bridge, the Lieutenant-Governor had power to transfer the management of the bridge to the Port Commissioners, who would then occupy the position of Bridge Commissioners under the Act. The bridge had been constructed shortly after the passing of the Act, and the Port Commissioners had been appointed Commissioners for the management of the bridge. As the Council was aware, on certain stated days in the week the bridge had to be opened for the passage of ships, and on those occasions the whole traffic between Calcutta and Howrah would be stopped, unless some other means of crossing the river were provided. Accordingly, at a very early period of the management, it was arranged, with the sanction of Government, that the Port Commissioners should take over the Railway Company's ferry steamers to carry passengers and goods, and keep up communication in the event of an accident happening to the bridge. They had also been compelled, in connection with the working of the bridge, and to prevent injury to the bridge and to ships passing through it, to purchase and maintain certain tug steamers. But it so happened that Act IX of 1871 only gave definite powers to apply the funds to the construction and maintenance of the bridge and of the approaches thereto. As a matter of fact, however, the Commissioners had up to date, with the sanction of Government, carried on the ferry service, as well as maintained tug steamers for hauling vessels through the bridge; and it was absolutely necessary for the continuance of the traffic and trade of the city that they should do so.

There was another circumstance which necessitated the introduction of this Bill at the present time. The Armenian Ghât was originally the terminus of the East Indian Railway; and when the terminus was removed to Howrah, the Company still maintained the ghât office as a receiving depôt for parcels and goods delivered by merchants in Calcutta, the Port Commissioners doing the work of carrying over the goods to Howrah. There was a certain advantage to the public in giving delivery of their goods to the Railway Company in Calcutta; it gave them a cause of action in the Court of Small Causes in Calcutta, and it was therefore desirable that there should be a depôt for the delivery of goods in Calcutta. But arrangements had now been entered into between the Railway Company and the Port Commissioners by which the ghât had been transferred to the Port Commissioners, and it was proposed that the transit of goods from Armenian Ghât to the Railway at Howrah should be managed entirely by the Commissioners. The performance of this service enabled them to cover almost the complete up-keep of their steamers in connection with the bridge. But when the agreement came to be entered into, it was found that the Port Commissioners had no power to do this under the Act, and accordingly the Advocate-General advised that an amendment of the Act should be applied for.

Those were the objects of the Bill. MR. MACKENZIE now asked leave to introduce. Unfortunately, owing to the pressing nature of the business, there had been no time to circulate the Bill before, but copies would be placed in the hands of the members in the course of the meeting. The first section of the Bill ran thus—

"This Act shall be, and shall be deemed to have always been, a part of Bengal Act IX of 1871."

That is to say, it gave the Commissioners indemnity for things done by them with the sanction of Government. And the 2nd section provided—

"It shall be lawful for the Commissioners, with the sanction of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, to build or acquire in any manner whatsoever such steam or other vessels as they may think fit, and to employ the same or any of them in towing vessels through the bridge and generally in the service of the bridge; and also in carrying goods, merchandize, and passengers to and from such places in Calcutta and Howrah as may from time to time be fixed by the Lieutenant-Governor, and to book and receive goods, merchandize, and passengers at any such places, and to make and levy such fees and charges as may from time to time be prescribed by the Lieutenant-Governor for the aforesaid duties and services."

The Bill, it would be seen, was a very short and very simple one, and he would now ask leave to introduce it.

The motion was agreed to.

The HON'BLE MR. MACKENZIE said that as this Bill was of such a simple character, and the matter was a pressing one, and the Session of the Council was drawing to a close, he would ask His Honor the President to suspend the Rules for the conduct of business in order that the Bill might at once be read in Council and referred to a Select Committee.

The PRESIDENT having declared the Rules suspended, the Bill was read in Council and referred to a Select Committee consisting of the Hon'ble Mr. O'Kinealy and the mover, with instructions to report at the next meeting of the Council.

ROAD AND PROVINCIAL PUBLIC WORKS CESSSES.

On the motion of the HON'BLE MR. DAMPIER the report of the Select Committee on the Bill to amend and consolidate the law relating to local rating for the construction charges and maintenance of roads and other means of communication, and of provincial public works, was taken into consideration in order to the settlement of the clauses of the Bill, and the clauses of the Bill were considered for settlement in the form recommended by the Select Committee.

In section 2, line 2 of the Proviso, the HON'BLE MR. DAMPIER moved the substitution of the words "immovable property" for "lands." The amendment was an obvious one; the Bill assessed immovable property, and not only lands.

The motion was agreed to.

The HON'BLE MR. DAMPIER moved to omit the definition of "Collector" in section 4, and to insert the following definition of "The Collector" after the definition of "Tenure":—

"The Collector means—

I.—When used in reference to revenue-paying estates and lands comprised therein, to all proceedings connected therewith, and to the assessment and levy of taxes in respect thereof, the Collector or other similar officer in whose revenue roll such estate is borne.

II.—When used in reference to revenue-free estates and lands comprised therein, to all proceedings connected therewith, and to the assessment and levy of taxes in respect thereof, the Collector or other similar officer on whose general register of revenue-free lands such lands are borne.

"The Collector of the district" means the officer in charge of the revenue administration of a district.

Explanation.—The terms 'The Collector' and

"The Collector of the district" include any person specially invested with the powers of a Collector for the purposes of this Act."

It would be observed that the definition had been divided into two parts. As "Collector" now stood defined in the Bill it meant the Collector of the geographical division of the district in which he exercised jurisdiction. Under the Bill almost all operations of assessment, valuation, levying cess, and so on were performed, not by the Collector within whose geographical division the

estate lay, but by the Collector on whose *towjee* it was borne. When it was intended to specify the Collector's duties in relation to the District Road Committee, the expression "Collector of the district" was used, which obviously meant the Collector of the geographical district.

The motion was agreed to.

The HON'BLE MR. DAMPIER moved to omit section 19 and substitute the following:—

"19. From and after the expiry of the time allowed by the notice, or of any extended time under the provisions of section 17, every holder of an estate or tenure in respect of which such notice has been served shall be precluded from suing for or recovering rent for any land or tenure situate in any estate or tenure in respect of which no return has been lodged as aforesaid.

The Collector may send a list to the Civil Court of all such holders so making default in lodging returns as aforesaid, and such Court shall take judicial notice of the same.

Whenever the required return is lodged in respect of any estate or tenure, or whenever the valuation of any such estate or tenure has been otherwise completed, the disability imposed on the holder thereof by this section shall cease; and if such estate or tenure shall have been included in any list as aforesaid, the Collector shall forthwith give notice to the Civil Court of the cessation of such disability.

19A. Every holder of an estate or tenure in respect of which a return has been made as required by this chapter shall be precluded from suing for or recovering—

- (a) any rent whatsoever for any land, holding, or tenure forming part of the estate or tenure to which such return relates, but which has not been mentioned in such return, unless it be proved that the holding or tenure for the rent of which the rent is claimed was created subsequently to the lodging of such return;
- (b) rent at any higher rate than is mentioned in such return for any land, holding, or tenure included in such return, unless it be proved that the rent of such land or tenure has been lawfully enhanced subsequently to the lodging of such return.

Provided that the Collector may at his discretion, at any time within six months from the presentation of any return made under this Part, receive a petition correcting any such return;

and on the acceptance of such petition, and on payment of the amount of cess due from the date when the corrected valuation came into force, rent at the rate shown in the corrected return may be recovered. Such notices as the Collector may direct shall be served upon the parties affected by such petition at the expense of the person lodging the return as aforesaid."

These sections were merely a re-arrangement of section 19 as it stood in the Bill. Section 19 mixed up two different things. It mixed up the case in which no returns were made by the zemindar, and the consequence of which was that he might not sue for rent at all; and secondly, the case in which, having made returns, he could not sue any tenant for a higher amount than was shown therein. The two cases were perfectly distinct.

The motion was agreed to.

The HON'BLE MR. DAMPIER moved to omit the following words which stood as the last clause of section 22:—

"Any holder of land on whom such notice may have been served in respect of any lands shall, if the Collector so order, be deemed to be a tenure-holder for the purposes of assessment and levy of the cesses in respect to such lands."

This was to meet a case where a man returned as a cultivating ryot had been served with notice by the Collector and had been ordered to file a return of the rent which he receives; then according to section 22 the Collector might assess him as a ryot on the rent which he received, and not on the rent which he paid. It might come to the Collector's notice that the man had been wrongly classed as a ryot, and that he ought to be returned as a tenure-holder. And in lieu of the clause which MR. DAMPIER proposed to omit from 22, he would move to insert the following section after section 23:—

"23A. If it shall appear to the Collector that any person on whom a notice has been served under section 22 has been wrongly classed in the return as a cultivating ryot, the Collector may direct that the entry be corrected, and that such person be classed as a tenure-holder; and thereupon such person shall be deemed to be a tenure-holder for the purposes of the assessment and levy of the assessment in respect of the lands held by him."

The motion was put and agreed to.

The HON'BLE MR. DAMPIER moved to omit from section 44, lines 5 to 8, the words "or any shareholder of a tenure, the extent of whose share or interest in the tenure is recorded in any register of tenures," and to substitute the following:—"or whenever any shareholder in an estate,

the extent of whose share or interest in such estate is recorded in any other register of lands." This amendment, he said, arose from the special definition of "tenure" given in the Bill, and the different meaning which the word had in ordinary revenue working. The point of section 44 was that when a recorded shareholder paid his own proportion of the cess, and also the cess upon the shares of other recorded shareholders, then he might call upon the Collector to recover the sum so paid by him from the other shareholders by the certificate summary procedure in the same way as a public demand was recoverable. It was very simple in the case of estates in the ordinary sense of the word, of which there was a general register under the Land Registration Act, and of which the shareholders were registered. But it was also proposed to give the same privilege to shareholders in what were ordinarily called "tenures"—tenures in estates belonging to Government, of which a register would not be kept in the general register of revenue-free lands, but in some other register which the Collector, as the representative of Government, the proprietor of the estate, kept of the tenures of the estate. What was wanted was that any person who was recorded as the proprietor of a tenure in a register which the Collector kept might recover by the certificate procedure from his co-sharers. These tenures paid revenue direct to Government, and therefore, under the special definitions of the Act, came not under the head of tenures, but of estates, and the section had been so altered now as to fit it to the state of things.

The motion was agreed to.

The HON'BLE MR. DAMPIER moved to insert the words "which may hereafter become due to such holder" after "cess" in line 12 of section 46D; and to substitute the word "other" for "lower" in line 13 of the same section. The first of these amendments, he said, was a mere explanation; but the second amendment involved something substantial. The section as it stood assumed that the Collector might only lower the value of rent-free lands included in the zemindar's returns; even if he found that the zemindar had under-valued instead of over-valuing, the Collector had no power to raise the valuation. A case might occur in which the zemindar might under-value; in such a case the public revenues ought to get the benefit of the assessment which the Collector thought proper.

The motion was agreed to.

In section 51, lines 17 to 20, the HON'BLE MR. DAMPIER moved to omit the words "from the year in which the valuation took effect, according to the return of the estate or tenure in which his land ought to have been included," and to substitute the words "for the three years next preceding." The section required the holders of rent-free lands to ascertain whether the holder of the estate in which his land was situate had included his rent-free land; if he had not done so the lakhirajdar might himself make a return, and thus free himself from the zemindar's clutches. The land ought perhaps to have been included in the zemindar's return five or six years previously, but under the limitation of the law cess upon such land could only be recovered for a period of three years after it became due; it was therefore useless assuming that the rent-free holder would pay arrears for any longer period.

The motion was agreed to.

The HON'BLE MR. DAMPIER moved to insert the following section after section 62F. The section was of a merely formal character:—

"62G. The Collector may at any time with the sanction of the Commissioner revoke any order passed under section 62B, and shall give notice of such revocation both to the holder of the revenue-free estate affected and to the holder of the other estate to which such revenue-free estate was annexed."

The section was agreed to.

In sections 67 and 70 formal and verbal amendments were made on the motion of the HON'BLE MR. DAMPIER.

On the motion of the HON'BLE MR. DAMPIER the following clauses were inserted after clause (d) of section 70, which empowered the Board of Revenue to make rules for certain purposes:—

"(d) regulating the opening, keeping, and closing of separate accounts in respect of amounts of cess payable by recorded shareholders in revenue-free estates as provided in section 42A;

(c) regulating the proceedings of Collectors under Chapter V of this Act."

The HON'BLE PEARY MOHUN MOOKERJEE said he thought section 51 of the Bill was open to several objections. It was unanimously agreed in Select Committee that no stranger should be allowed to inspect or examine these returns. But this section allowed any person calling himself rightly or wrongly a lakhirajdar to inspect any return. In the second place, considering the circumstances under which the zemindars omitted or neglected to make a return of rent-free holdings in their estates, section 48 of this Bill provided for the filing of supplementary returns in respect of rent-free holdings in estates and tenures. But section 51 made that provision altogether nugatory by providing that rent-free holders might make returns of rent-free holdings even on the day after the date of the passing of the Act, without giving zemindars and the holders of estates and tenures any time at all to put in their supplementary returns. The last objection to which this section was open was that it was rather obscure in language; it might bring on collision between zemindars and rent-free holders, and unnecessarily give rise to numberless disputes concerning the validity of the claims of rent-free holdings. He thought it very desirable that it should be expressly provided that no cess should be payable for the same land both as rent-paying and rent-free. On these grounds he moved that the following section be substituted for section 51:—

"Section 51.—Every owner and holder of rent-free land who, within six months after the passing of this Act, shall not be called upon by the holder of the estate or tenure of which his lands are deemed to form a part to pay road cess and public works cess in respect of such land, may himself, after the expiry of that time, make a return of his land in the said form, and may pay to the Collector the full amount of cesses due from him for the three years next proceeding.

Provided that nothing in this section shall authorize the Collector to receive any sum as cess under this section in respect of any land which the holder of such estate or tenure can show to be included by him in his return as rent-paying."

The HON'BLE MR. DAMPIER said this was a very important section and one in which landholders took a great deal of interest. The Council would observe that an entirely new chapter had been introduced in order to force landholders to act up to their obligations in respect of entering in their returns for the purposes of this Bill those rent-free lands which were included within the ambit of their estates. Under the Act which was about to be repealed, zemindars were bound to include in their returns all lakhiraj lands which lay within their estates, but practically in nine cases out of ten these lands were not so included; the zemindars had in fact no knowledge of the existence of these rent-free holdings, and they did not wish to have to pay for them; it was strongly to their interest not to return them. And so these persons escaped taxation altogether for the purposes of the Bill. The chapter which the Select Committee introduced endeavoured to give effect to what was the original intention of the law: it provided inducements to the zemindars not to omit to return these rent-free lands. It gave them fifty per cent. on the amount which the rent-free holder was required to pay; and there were provisions in detail for the making of supplementary returns to supply omissions occurring in former returns—voluntary omissions possibly most of them. Then it was said that a rent-free holder was bound to satisfy himself in respect of the return in which he ought to be included: if the zemindar had omitted him, the rent-free holder might make a return of his own land, and claim the right of paying the cess directly to the Collector in future instead of through the zemindar, thereby saving himself from penalties for not having paid in time to the zemindar, and so on. The hon'ble member opposite objected to section 51 on three grounds; first, because the lakhirajdar was required to inspect the zemindars' returns. The hon'ble member said that it was agreed in Select Committee that the zemindars' returns were not to be open to the public in general, and to say to the lakhirajdar he must inform himself was to open the returns to his inspection. MR. DAMPIER was not prepared to meet that objection at present, and must reserve the consideration of it: he believed the Select Committee did not come to a distinct conclusion on this point. Then the hon'ble mover of the amendment said that a certain time should be given within which the zemindar might return lakhiraj lands before lakhirajdars could themselves come in. That was a point which required consideration also, and MR. DAMPIER was inclined to give some weight to

the objection. The third point was as to the lakhirajdar's return being used as a fulcrum by which he should claim, and try to establish a claim to hold lands rent-free to which in reality he was not so entitled. It was objected that in the course of years the very fact of a lakhirajdar having made a claim to 10 bigahs instead of 5 would practically become evidence against the zemindar, and to that the zemindars had great objection. They said: "If once we include any given land in our returns (whether rightly or wrongly) as rent-paying, that should be enough;" the lakhirajdar should not be entitled to come forward and say "it is my rent-free land." To this Mr. DAMPIER would reply that he thought the Government was quite at liberty to say "if the lakhirajdar likes to come forward and to pay a second addition of the cess, let him do so, but his doing so will be no sort of evidence against the zemindar."

HIS HONOR THE PRESIDENT remarked that a memorial had been circulated only that day from the British Indian Association in which some representation was made in reference to the section under discussion; he thought the Council should be allowed some time to consider the matter before it was finally determined.

The further consideration of the motion was postponed.

Section 10 of the Bill ran as follows:—

"10. The proceeds of the Public Works Cess shall be paid into the public treasury, and shall be applied—(1) to the payment of such contributions to the District Road Fund as the Lieutenant-Governor may think proper in consideration of the said cess being assessed and collected jointly with the Road Cess by establishments paid from the District Road Fund; and (2) to the construction charges and maintenance of Provincial Public Works, and to the payment of interest on capital which may have been expended, or which may hereafter be expended on such works in such manner as the Lieutenant-Governor may direct."

The HON'BLE KRISTODAS PAL moved the insertion of the following words after the word "works"—"likely to protect the country against the occurrence of famine," and the addition of these words at the end of the section, "and to relief of sufferings from famine."

He also moved the insertion of the following section after section 10:—

"Accounts of the moneys received and expended on account of the Public Works Cess under the provisions of this Act shall be kept in such form as the Lieutenant-Governor may prescribe, and a statement showing the receipts, expenditure, and balance of the Public Works Cess shall be published annually in the *Calcutta Gazette*."

He said it would be convenient to take the two amendments together, which referred to the application of the proceeds of the public works cess to famine purposes, and to the keeping of the accounts of the cess.

He had to apologize to the Council for taking upon himself the responsibility of raising the very important question which the first amendment involved; it was a question which he should submit legitimately fell within the functions of the Executive Government; it could only be settled by the Government of Bengal in communication with the Government of India. When he raised the question, he did so because the declarations made in the other Council, and also in this Council, fully justified him in demanding that the proceeds of the Public Works Cess should be applied to the purposes of famine as originally intended. In 1877, the Hon'ble the Finance Minister, on behalf of the Government of India, enunciated a scheme of famine taxation, and the Public Works Cess was a part of that scheme. The people of Bengal submitted to it in view of the benevolent object which it was intended to accomplish through the agency of that tax. In propounding the necessity for special taxation for execution of works likely to protect the country from the occurrence of famine, the Hon'ble the Finance Minister said—

"The measures which I have been explaining (i.e., the Public Works Cess Bill for Bengal and the License Tax Bill for the North-Western Provinces) are a step in the direction which I have mentioned: by throwing upon each province the responsibility for meeting the charges necessary for providing the canals and railways required to protect its own people against famine, we give practical recognition to the principle on which the Secretary of State has insisted upon, and we obtain, to a certain extent, though far from completely, that safeguard for the Imperial revenues which he thought so necessary."

When the Hon'ble Mr. Reynolds introduced the Public Works Cess Bill into this Council in 1877, he gave the reasons which induced the Bengal Government to bring forward that measure. It was urged that the Lieutenant-Governor had been called upon by the Government of India to provide a certain annual contribution for the payment of interest upon capital laid out upon certain works; those works were the three great irrigation canals on the Soane, in Orissa, and at Midnapore, and the State Railways of Port Canning, Nulhatee, Northern Bengal, and Tirkoot. He calculated the charge for interest on the Irrigation Works at Rs. 20,69,000, and the working expense in excess of the receipts at Rs. 1,50,000, making a total charge of Rs. 22,19,000 on account of canals. The charge for interest on account of State Railways was Rs. 8,21,000, and the nett earnings and amount of traffic receipts in excess of working expenses was Rs. 2,93,000, reducing the total charge on account of railways to Rs. 5,28,000. Taking the two heads of Irrigation and Railways together, the sum for which the Bengal Government was to be held responsible amounted to Rs. 27,47,000. But this was not all. Mr Reynolds further said—

“It had been laid down by the Government of India that it was necessary to introduce a system of provincial and local responsibility for the provision of local relief in the event of a famine. It was true that Bengal was happily less liable to the contingency of famine than other parts of India; but the two great calamities which had befallen those provinces within the last twelve years must have shown that the contingency of famine was one which we could not afford altogether to overlook.”

And so, as the hon'ble mover of the Bill stated, the balance of Public Works Cess should be applied to famine purposes. In alluding to these statements BABOO KRISTODAS PAL's object was to show distinctly the character of the Public Works Cess; it was, as already observed, a part and parcel of the scheme inaugurated by the Government of India in 1877. On referring to the last Financial Statement, it would be found that the Hon'ble the Finance Minister laid much stress on this distinctive character of the Public Works Cess. He said—

“Taking together the measures adopted in the two years 1877 and 1878, the first new taxation was the Public Works Cess imposed on the land of Bengal: this yielded in 1878-79 £355,590.”

Then he went on to discuss the question whether, if there was a probability of a surplus, the License Tax Act should be repealed, or the Public Works Cess should be remitted. He said—

“Considering that precisely the same reasons were given by the Government and accepted by the Legislature for imposing fresh taxation on the trading and on the agricultural classes, with the object of protecting the country against the financial consequences of famine, and that special stress was laid upon our desire to make the burden fall with approximate equality on each of these classes, it would be difficult, for the present Government at least, to accept any proposition for treating them differently now. In fact it would be hardly possible to maintain the cesses on the land, if the tax on trades were abolished. It might be more possible to defend the abolition of the cesses on the land and the maintenance of the tax on trades.”

Now BABOO KRISTODAS PAL hoped he had said enough to shew that the character of the Public Works Cess was specific; that it was intended chiefly to be applied to purposes connected with famine, but, as a matter of fact, he was sorry to say that it had not been so applied. Excepting the works which were pointed out by the hon'ble mover of the Bill, viz. the irrigation canals and railways, some of which were not directly connected with famine at all, he did not know to what other works the Public Works Cess had been applied. Under the law it was the duty of the Government of Bengal to publish accounts of the funds raised under the Act; that was a solemn obligation imposed by an Act of the Legislature, but that obligation, he was constrained to say, had not been fulfilled. There might be good and valid reasons for this departure from the law; nothing reasonable had hitherto been stated; the only reason given by the hon'ble mover of the present amending Bill was that it had been found impossible to give such an account. BABOO KRISTODAS PAL did not think it could justly be contended that the Accounts Department could not devise a system of accounts that would give a fair statement of the expenditure of the Public Works Cess. Parliament had repeatedly laid stress on the publication of authentic accounts of Indian revenues; but here was an instance in which the Legislature had

specially declared that a separate account should be kept and published, but that had not been done. He might be told that the accounts he called for might be seen in the Administration Report of the Government of Bengal. With due deference he submitted that that book was neither widely circulated nor widely read, and the public at large could not be expected to know what was contained in it; but even there the accounts were jumbled up, so much so, that it was difficult to follow a precise line as to the application of the cess. The cost of the works was given, but where the money came from could not be traced. He might be answered that the account he called for was simple enough. The Government had to make over to the Imperial treasury Rs. 27,00,000 as stated by Mr. Reynolds, and that no further details need be given; but as he had already pointed out, from the statement of the Finance Minister, the proceeds of the cess amounted to more than Rs. 35,00,000, and after paying the amount of the contract, if he might so term it, entered into between the Government of India and the Government of Bengal in 1877, there would be a balance of Rs. 8,00,000 left, and how was that balance appropriated? That balance of eight lakhs would cover the interest upon borrowed capital of two millions for Public Works in Bengal; if that fund was available, the Bengal Government could execute all those important railway communications which were considered so necessary, and the tax-payers would have the satisfaction of knowing that the money they had been paying had been spent within the country, and would be applied to their own benefit. But the misfortune was they did not know where the money had gone to. It had always been his painful duty to remind the Council that Bengal, though the most productive province of India in a financial point of view, though yielding the largest amount of revenue as compared with all the other provinces, had had from, he might say, the beginning of the century but scant justice done to it in regard to financial matters. When the Public Works Cess was introduced, he endeavoured to give a sketch of the financial history of Bengal, and in that review he quoted the opinions of Sir John Peter Grant and Sir George Campbell with regard to the very scant justice done to the claims of Bengal; and in noticing that review, His Honor the President was pleased to say—

"Sir John Grant pointed out that nothing had been done for Bengal in the way of assigning it funds for opening out communications up to 1861, and Sir George Campbell had said that very little had been done since, which was no doubt true. But it appeared to His Honor that if the hon'ble member had been arguing in favour of this Bill, he could not have adduced any stronger argument than that of those two gentlemen, because they wanted to show that whatever was raised in Bengal was spent elsewhere, and that Bengal did not receive its fair share of its own revenues. The object of the present system of decentralization was to put a stop to that state of things, and to secure to Bengal a certain amount of the revenue which it had to raise for itself."

BABOO KRISTODAS PAL appealed again to the hon'ble members to say whether that declaration had been fulfilled, whether Bengal had been allowed to spend the money she was required to raise by the imposition of the Public Works Cess. He had told them that the bulk of the proceeds of the tax which was declared applicable to the payment of interest for certain works went to meet charges which had hitherto been borne by the Imperial Exchequer; but he was not in a position to show what His Honor the President was pleased to promise that the money that was raised was spent in Bengal. His Honor went further and said—

"In nearly every native newspaper which he had taken up lately, he had seen Bengal spoken of as the milk cow of India. The object of this measure was to remedy the state of things which had led to the common use of this phrase, to enable Bengal to use a little of its own milk, which it now contributed for the benefit of other provinces, and to substitute for fresh general taxation of which they could have no account, and from which they should receive but little benefit, a system under which they were to impose their own taxation and look after the development and expenditure of their own finances."

Thus, they were promised the use of their own milk, but he was afraid that not a drop had come into their mouths; they were told that in general taxation they could have no accounts, but that, if they were to impose their own taxation, they could look after their own finances. BABOO KRISTODAS PAL had pointed out that those accounts had not been given: that had been their position as regards the application of the proceeds of the Public Works Cess. He should

wish it to be distinctly understood that he did not oppose the principle upon which the cess had been imposed. He did not for a moment question the noble and beneficent motives which actuated the Government in inaugurating the scheme of famine taxation, but he did contend that money raised in Bengal should be spent in Bengal, and that the tax-payers had a right to know how the money had been applied. His object was to strengthen the hands of Government in this respect.

None had more strongly urged than His Honor the necessity for the execution of those famine insurance works which had been announced by the Government of India two years ago. At a recent meeting of the Viceregal Council, His Honor advanced cogent reasons why those works should be proceeded with. As regards expenditure upon productive works generally, BAROQ KRISTODAS PAL believed the Government of Bengal must act under the orders of the Government of India; but when a separate fund was constituted under a distinct Act of this Legislature, and power was given to the Lieutenant-Governor to apply it to particular purposes, he did not think that the special sanction of the Government of India was necessary. And if the Public Works Cess Act had distinctly laid down the purposes to which the cess would be applicable, the Government of Bengal would have been quite competent to carry out those purposes without reference to the Government of India. Believing that to be the case, he thought it was desirable that the law should contain a distinct provision that the proceeds of the cess should be applicable to specific purposes, and that the public should be furnished with accounts of the expenditure of the money.

He would not trouble the Council with further remarks on this point, but he hoped hon'ble members would bear in mind that in moving this amendment he simply asked the Council to give effect to the declarations which, as he had pointed out, had from time to time been made in the upper Council, as also in this Council, as to the purposes to which the proceeds of the Public Work Cess should be applied; and in calling for the publication of accounts, he simply repeated a provision which existed in the Cess Act about to be repealed.

The HON'BLE MR. DAMPIER said the immediate object of the amendment was to protest against the omission from the present Bill of a clause which now stood in the Provincial Public Works Cess Act requiring that an account of the monies levied should be published annually by the Government in the *Calcutta Gazette*. This omission was discussed in Select Committee, and it was made under the immediate orders of the Lieutenant-Governor. As the hon'ble gentleman who had just spoken said, there were very valid and cogent reasons for the omission. He could understand his hon'ble friend as representing the public wishing to have an explanation of those reasons; but he could not understand his professing to entertain serious doubts as to whether the money raised by this cess was expended in Bengal or not. However, as this and several other important amendments which stood in his hon'ble friend's notice of amendments affected the Financial Department of the Government of Bengal, it would be more strictly proper that the Financial Secretary to the Government should give those reasons, MR. DAMPIER therefore left him to explain the motives and the reasons which induced the Government to ask for the omission of the clause in question.

The HON'BLE MR. MACKENZIE said:—"To the proposal that the Government should be bound by law to spend the proceeds of the Public Works Cess solely upon works for the prevention or relief of famine, the Government must, I think, offer an unqualified resistance. I am not sorry, however, that the hon'ble member opposite has raised the question, because it gives me an opportunity of meeting, and I trust of once for all dispelling some radical misconceptions, in which the hon'ble member shares, as to the position of the local Government of Bengal with reference to this tax. I must ask the Council to bear with me while I trace, with some minuteness, its origin and history. I cannot accept as history the very partial account given by my hon'ble friend.

In the Financial statement for the year 1877-78, Sir John Strachey, after a comprehensive review of the Imperial finances from 1869-70 onwards, declared

that, to place those finances on a sound and permanent basis for the future, it was absolutely essential to establish such a surplus of ordinary income over expenditure as should enable the Government to meet, from ordinary revenues, (1) all charges for the relief of famine; (2) all charges for unremunerative Public Works; and (3) all charges rendered necessary by unforeseen ordinary demands, or by urgent fiscal reforms, including under this third heading the growing charges for exchange. He pointed out that the only means by which the necessary improvement in the financial position could be gained were (1) fresh taxation, or (2) reduction of expenditure, or (3) increased productiveness of existing sources of revenue; or lastly, a combination of these means. In order to the development of existing sources of revenue, and the restriction of existing administrative expenditure, the extension of the decentralization scheme, as inaugurated in 1871-72 by Lord Mayo's Government, had been resolved upon. But that was in itself not sufficient to secure the necessary surplus for the Imperial Exchequer. It did little more than guard the Imperial Government against further demands under certain great heads of administrative expenditure, while enlisting the co-operation of the local Governments in securing a moderate development of certain ordinary heads of revenue. It was therefore proposed to make each local Government responsible "not only for the management of many of the great Public Works that were being constructed with borrowed money, but also to throw upon those Governments the charges which such works might entail."

Now, one argument put forward by Sir John Strachey for this transfer of charge was certainly based on the patent fact that railways and irrigation canals do help to protect the localities served by such works from famine or its effects. But the main justification of the proposal lay in the statement that the works to be thus transferred were primarily works of provincial or local utility, undertaken for the special benefit of certain districts and places. "All that we now desire (said Sir John Strachey) is to enforce provincial responsibility for works of provincial utility." "We desire to throw upon every province, so far as this is now practicable, the responsibility for meeting the cost of its own local requirements." The local Governments were left to consider how far the charges thus thrown upon them could be recovered from the people primarily benefited, and what portion would have to be met by the province at large. This, and nothing more than this, was the scheme for improving the position of the Imperial finances, so far as it was expounded in March 1877; and it was in accordance with this scheme that a Bill for the levy of a compulsory irrigation rate on lands and the Provincial Public Works Cess Bill were immediately thereafter introduced in this Council.

The questions thus discussed were, Sir John Strachey admitted, intimately connected with the finance of famine relief, and the enforcement of local responsibility for the relief of famines; but on that matter no positive conclusion had, he said, been then come to. And the Government in March 1877 distinctly reserved for future consideration all plans of meeting the cost of such relief directly from local sources. The only point so far settled was that the Government of Bengal (to confine the argument to the matter now in hand) should find money locally for meeting the charges on account of its productive Public Works—past, present, and to come.

If the Members of the Council will turn with me now to the speech made by the Secretary to Government (Mr. Reynolds) when introducing the Public Works Cess Bill on the 31st March 1877, they will find it clearly stated that the proposed taxation was necessary to enable this Government (1) to meet the liability thrown upon it for interest on the capital cost of its railways and canals; (2) to provide for the completion and extension of those works which were still unfinished; (3) to provide for such new works as might be necessary in Bengal; and (4) to secure a surplus and reserve fund in hand for the provision of local relief in the event of famine. It has always seemed to me that, in view of the explicit reservation of the famine question by Sir J. Strachey, the introduction of this fourth object was at the time somewhat premature. But it serves to make even more clear the point I aim at, which is to show that the Provincial Public Works Cess was not in fact designed to be spent year by year solely on works for famine prevention

or famine relief, but intended to be in the hands of the local Government a fiscal engine for maintaining and improving its general financial position, and enabling it to meet from its general provincial balances the heavy financial responsibility thrown upon it by the policy of the Supreme Government, a responsibility which might eventually come to include charges for the relief of local distress not being of a general character. As explained by the President himself at page 32 of the Council Proceedings for 1877: "It must be remembered that we must always have some money in hand to pay for the construction of new works, and we must keep a working margin in hand; therefore it will not do to cut down the amount we are to raise to the bare sum which will be required for the interest on the works which are already completed." And again at page 57: "The Public Works Cess is a measure for raising a further sum of money for the general development of works for the benefit of the whole of these provinces." There could not have been any franker intimation than is contained in these paragraphs, that more was to be raised by the Public Works Cess than would suffice to meet the bare requirements of the Supreme Government in the matter of interest, and that the proceeds of the tax were generally to be utilized for provincial works of utility of every kind. The preamble of the Act (II of 1877) embodies precisely the idea which the Government had in view. It ran—"Whereas it is expedient to empower the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal to levy a cess on immovable property and to apply the proceeds of the same to the construction, maintenance, and charges of Provincial Public Works." Not a word is said about famine relief from one end of the Act to the other. Nor was anything said about famine relief in the Acts for Upper India passed at the same time in the other Council. In bringing in those Acts on the 21st of March, the Hon'ble Mr. Colvin said—"The measures proposed were in furtherance of the scheme for throwing on the local Governments the responsibility of undertaking their own local works and for that purpose only. They related solely and entirely to the extension of the Provincial system to the management of public works." Sir John Strachey in the same debate summed up the whole aim and object of the North-Western Provinces local taxation (and by implication of the Bengal Public Works Cess Act) thus:—"It amounts to no more than this—we desire to give the earliest possible practical effect—an effect which shall operate as widely as it is at present in our power to extend its operation—to the principle that the local Government shall be responsible financially for the maintenance and management of works which are of special local utility."

Now I am well aware that when the Government of India had thought out the question of famine, it treated these provincial rates as part of its general scheme of famine taxation. Sir J. Strachey in his financial speeches of the 27th December 1877 and 16th February 1878 explained that, as the Imperial Government must be responsible for the relief of famine in the last resort—"the special resources now created—must be at the complete command of the Government of India," and hence the idea has got abroad, and has somewhat rashly, I venture to say, been adopted even in the Legislative Council of India itself, that the Provincial Public Works Cess stands exactly on all fours with the license-tax. This is emphatically, as far as Bengal is concerned, not the case. The 'special resource' at the disposal of the Government of India arising out of the Public Works Cess is simply the amount paid over to that Government on account of interest on the capital invested in productive works within the province by the Imperial Government. If the Government of India chose to say that it had established by other means, and apart from that payment, the desired surplus of income over expenditure, and was now willing to remit that interest payment, the Government of Bengal might reduce the amount of its demand under the Public Works Cess Act; but it would not necessarily, or even probably, forego it altogether. It could still spend every penny of the money for the benefit of the province, were it allowed to do so. It would still require an established surplus of provincial income to meet the urgent demands upon it for works of every kind.

Practically the hon'ble member is inviting the Government of India to divert to the Imperial Exchequer what are meant to be strictly Provincial funds. Sir John Strachey, in January 1878, seemed indeed to contemplate some such

process. In speaking of the so-called system of mutual insurance, "under which all parts of the country which are primarily responsible for supplying the wants which arise within their own area will contribute towards the relief of other parts on which famine may actually fall," he said: "Resources will be created from which the central authority will draw whatever sum is found to be requisite to discharge the obligations arising from the dead-weight of famine expenditure." But, Sir, I have shown that all that can be drawn from the Bengal Public Works Cess, as the law stands, is the interest on our productive capital outlay, and we have the benefit of all that remains to us after satisfying that charge, besides the net earnings of our works. The Government of India is relieved of so much interest on debt, and is put so far in a position of surplus to meet famine demands; while we are, by the receipts from the cess, enabled to meet the interest charges out of our general balance, and to go on with other Provincial works for the benefit of the province at large. The hon'ble member would, as I understand the effect of his proposal, stamp the whole of these receipts with the broad arrow of famine, and tender it, with perhaps one regretful sigh, to the omnivorous central authority referred to. I trust this Council will prove wiser in its generation. Provincial taxation of some kind I fear there must be. But the local Government may be trusted to make the most of the proceeds in the general interests of Bengal, and do not hamper it by impracticable restrictions and a doubtful nomenclature.

I have shown that the connection of famine with the Public Works Cess is after all only an indirect one. I believe myself that if the present famine policy had never been evolved, we should all the same have had to bear the burden of our Productive Public Works sooner or later. It was a charge that was bound to come, and I cannot say that it is an unjust one. If we were only allowed to make the most of our revenue, the burden would be so light as not to be felt. The country would in fact grow under it, and get all the benefits of financial independence and unfettered development.

I have pointed out that *some* Provincial taxation is probably essential to the stability of Bengal finance, and I repeat this, although I know that we have at the present moment ample balances quite apart from any surplus receipts from the Public Works Cess, and although it is true that we had accumulated before the famine balances nearly as great. Sir, these balances prove on analysis not so satisfactory a possession as might at first blush be supposed. When the Provincial Services scheme was started in 1871-72, we received, as Sir George Campbell told this Council, for the management of the great spending departments then made over to us, 37 lakhs less than they had cost in 1868-69, and 11 lakhs less than the Government of India had felt bound to spend upon them in the worst year of the financial panic in 1870-71. Bare existence was all that we could hope for. On such means progress seemed necessarily out of the question. Not, however, despairing of the province, Sir George Campbell went to work, and in two years accumulated, as I have said, a considerable balance; but how did he manage this? By transferring to the District Road Funds the maintenance of nearly all the roads in the province; by seizing every windfall, and screwing out of the Financial Department every extra penny to which he could lay the shadow of a claim; by converting to general uses all sorts of petty funds; and lastly, by practically suspending all expenditure save what was actually necessary to keep the administration going. With all his burning longings for universal reform, Sir George Campbell was as cautious and thrifty an administrator financially as India ever saw. I do not myself think that justice to his great financial capacity has ever been properly done. He had an amazing grasp of both details and principles when dealing with such subjects. When he thought his position secure for the time he postponed further taxation, which he had always avowedly kept in reserve, and proceeded to allot the funds in hand in order to give Bengal the improvements, moral and material, for which it had so long been crying. But before the money could be utilized, famine swooped down upon the country and every farthing of his accumulations had to be surrendered to feed the people of the tracts distressed.

After two years of pinching, you too, Sir, began to accumulate funds, owing mainly to the wonderful prosperity of the year 1877-78, and the fact

that we had now become masters of our own excise and stamp receipts. You too, Sir, like Sir G. Campbell, thought, after a while, that the time had come when Bengal might hope to profit by its own savings, and visions most gratifying to a governing mind took shape in your Public Works Department: roads, canals, and railways, all that Bengal had pined for, were at last to be begun. But before we had had more than a glimpse of this golden age, the periodically recurrent cloud of financial depression again settled down upon the Government of India. All extra expenditure was summarily stopped, and we find ourselves, at the beginning of 1880-81, with a balance of some 50 lakhs of rupees, not allowed to spend any of it on productive works, and doubtful if we shall even be allowed to appropriate some reasonable part of it to ordinary provincial requirements. It cannot be too emphatically stated that hitherto the Provincial Services scheme has not given to Bengal those material improvements that have always been admittedly desirable, and the prospect of getting which by our own exertions was indeed the main inducement held out to induce us to accept reduced allotments from the Imperial Government. The local Government has always found itself balked when at the very point of attaining its desire. I impute no blame to any one for this. Circumstances must, I suppose, be held accountable. But I must ask the Council to remember that with the year 1881-82 will expire our five-year settlement with the Government of India. What the demands of that Government may then prove to be I do not care to guess. But we cannot always expect to have a succession of surplus years such as we have had of late. A very moderate local famine, or the necessities of the Empire at large, may again sweep away our balances; and then, unless we get a renewal of the farm of our excise and stamp revenue upon favourable terms, we shall have nothing to fall back upon but this Provincial Cess, which must therefore remain upon our statute book as a financial stand-by, our only sure provision against an evil day. That we must face small local famines without looking to the Supreme Government for aid is clear from the following extract from the order of that Government in the Financial Department of the 11th December 1877:—

"15. It is an accepted principle that, for the relief of distress arising from famine, municipal and local resources should, so far as they can legally be applied to the purpose, be first exhausted; that, when these are exhausted, and only then, district resources should be employed; that, when district resources are exhausted, resort should be had to provincial resources; and that the Imperial Government should intervene only when provincial, district, and municipal resources are all exhausted.

"16. If in any case, under the operation of the Rules in this resolution, a famine ends without exhausting municipal, district, or provincial resources, they should, so far as the law allows, and as is thought in each case expedient, be required to contribute towards the relief of the Imperial Treasury from the residual burden falling upon it.

"17. On the other hand, the Imperial Government undertakes to guarantee Provincial and Local Funds against insolvency, and to make such a grant under the head of "Famine Relief" as will enable the Provincial Government, at the end of a famine, to resume with efficiency the ordinary administration. At the end of the Bengal Famine of 1874, accounts were so adjusted between the Imperial Government and the Government of Bengal as to leave an aggregate net balance of five lakhs of rupees at credit of the Provincial Funds and Local Funds at the disposal of the Government of Bengal for provincial purposes; an analogous net balance of six lakhs of rupees has been promised to the Government of Bombay at the end of the present famine. It is a duty especially incumbent upon the Provincial Government so to husband and economise its resources of all kinds in times of famine, as to reduce to a minimum the contributions which may thus fall upon the Imperial Government."

I repeat, however, that the Provincial Public Works Cess as raised is not meant to be spent directly upon famine works. Its collections appear in our accounts in gross under the heading of Provincial Rates, and go to swell our general revenues. The gross traffic and other receipts of our canals and railways are shown also in the same way as Provincial Revenues. On the expenditure side of the budget we show the "interest payable on canals and railways capital outlay," and their "working expenses," under separate headings, like any other major head of service. The payments shown as on account of "famine insurance" are a perfectly distinct heading, and represent that portion of the license-tax collections made over to the Supreme Government direct.

This is how the accounts are kept under the orders of that Government, and we have no power to alter it.

From what I have said it will be evident that no separate annual account of the expenditure of the Provincial Cess is possible. The provision regarding the preparation of such an account got into the Act of 1877 by a simple mistake and failure to realize the conditions of the case. The idea was to follow, in respect of the provincial cess, the lines of the Road Cess Act, and because an account can be rendered, district by district, of all expenditure charged to these purely local funds, it was assumed, without due reflection, that a provincial account could be kept of the provincial cess in the same manner. But when we sanction a provincial work, we do not charge it against any special fund in the way imagined. The Lieutenant-Governor assigns to public works from the surplus revenue at his disposal a lump grant as large as he can afford to make it, and the money is then distributed in a detailed estimate by the Public Works Department. We cannot pick out of this the works executed with the identical sums paid in as cess. All that the public need care to know is this: that we are spending on public works, and on the interest payments to the Government of India, a sum at least equal to what we receive from the tax-payers and from the Imperial allotment on that particular account. Any one can satisfy himself as to this by a reference to the Annual Administration Report, and it is only by a study of the facts and figures there explained that the real position can ever be properly understood. I may, however, state, for the information of the Council, that while for the current year our net receipts from the cess are estimated at 34½ lakhs of rupees, our payment to the Supreme Government for interest on works is Rs. 35,07,000. In the coming year we estimate to get net Rs. 32,71,000, and we pay on interest Rs. 36,56,000. On the face of the cess account, therefore, the balance of eight lakhs, regarding which the hon'ble member was so anxious, does not even exist. What balance there is, is against the local Government. It is only because our railways and canals are now beginning to pay that we derive any profit from the bargain regarding their transfer, even after crediting the whole proceeds of the Public Works Cess. I may further observe that we estimate that we shall have spent on Public Works during the four years ending 1880-81, in spite of all hindrances, 13½ lakhs more than we have drawn from Public Works Cess, Irrigation, Navigation, State Railway receipts, Ordinary Public Works receipts, and the Imperial allotment for works, all taken together. The public may thus feel satisfied, that the Provincial Public Works Cess is being fully utilized and the Council will, I trust, see that the amendments of the hon'ble member are such as ought not to be accepted."

HIS HONOR THE PRESIDENT said that before putting the amendment he wished to make a few remarks on the subject of the charge brought by the hon'ble member against the Government, of not complying with the terms of the Act, and of not having expended the money raised by the Public Works Cess in the manner intended at the time when the Act was passed. He must begin by saying that there appeared to be the most extraordinary confusion in the mind of the hon'ble member, and he thought he might say in other minds too, as to the contract which the Government of Bengal made with the Government of India at the time of the passing of the Act, and the Cess engagements which the Government of Bengal made with the public at the same time. He found himself here brought forward by the hon'ble member as a sponsor, at all events, of the Famine Insurance Fund, and of having brought in the Cess Bill with the view of providing a fund for expenditure on famine works. Now, if his hon'ble friend would try and recollect a little what did occur at the time, he would find simply this—that the Government of India, not the Government of Bengal, had a great scheme two years ago for providing funds for meeting famine expenditure, and they also said their intention was to invest the funds so raised in public works which would be useful to the country and prove practically a protection against famines. The question was how they were to get the money to originate this fund. One of the first proposals which occurred to them was that the system of decentralization might be carried very much further than it had been, and that the Government of India

might be relieved of the interest they were then paying on a great number of works constructed in various provinces of the country from which the Imperial Government got no particular benefit, but which, there was no doubt, were of very great benefit and protection to people in certain tracts of the country, and they said not unnaturally:—"We have got to impose on the people of the country some new taxation, and it seems to us that the proper way to do this will be to make over to each province the charge for interest upon these works," leaving them to raise the money necessary to pay this charge in the manner best suited to the conditions of the people and the province. On being consulted on the subject, His Honor was bound to admit that if taxation was to be resorted to in order to enable the Government of India to form a famine fund, and be in a better position to meet extraordinary calls, there could be nothing better for these provinces than that it should raise its own taxation in the way the Local Government thought best, and with this money relieve the Government of India of the interest upon capital raised for these works; the Government of India taking that money and using it for the purposes of that famine fund. He did not propose to follow the history of that famine fund. They had had an explanation from Sir John Strachey of the history of that fund, and he hoped they understood what it was. His Honor had nothing to do with that. He accepted the position and gave his quota towards that fund, and he believed it had been used as it should have been done. At any rate it had not been misapplied by this Government, nor had he ever bound himself that the money raised under this cess should be exclusively expended in the construction of works for the relief of famines. The famine administration was entirely foreign to the question: that was an Imperial question; all that the Government of Bengal undertook to do was to raise the money to relieve the Government of India of these charges upon their capital, in order that they might have a surplus to use in a certain way. What they did up to that time was to relieve the Government of India of a charge of over 27 lakhs. This charge of 27 lakhs at the time they took it over had since increased to 36 lakhs, and this was what he had to pay for the coming year to the Government of India on account of the responsibility which he incurred on the first passing of the Public Works Cess Act. He only hoped to receive 32 lakhs under the Cess Act, and he had got to pay 36 lakhs. His friend had accused him of taking more money than was wanted and appropriating it to some other purposes. So far from that being the case, he had to pay away money received from other sources to the Local Government to meet the liabilities which he incurred when he took the responsibility on him under the original Act.

Of course it might be said that in doing this he had made a very bad bargain for Bengal, and so far it might be said he was to blame. But he did not think this was the case, because, when he undertook to do this, it appeared that if he got the maintenance of these great works in the hands of his own officers, subject to his control and inspection, they might make these works yield a revenue which would cover this accruing interest, and also leave them a surplus which would be spent for the general interests of the province. He found that in 1877-78 irrigation receipts were 5 lakhs, and this year they have grown to 10 lakhs, and he hoped that in the coming year, these receipts would be increased from 5 to over 11 lakhs. He hoped that this would show that they had done something to improve the working of this measure, and that they had not made a bad bargain.

Then as regards State Railways. When he took them over the receipts from these railways for the first year were only 7½ lakhs, the actual receipts for the closing year were 24 lakhs, and for the coming year they were estimated at a very moderate scale at over 27 lakhs, or an improvement of over 20 lakhs. Therefore he derived some satisfaction from the feeling that it might be said that under their local administration these railways had been worked to the public good; they had, on the whole, made a very good bargain for Bengal. Therefore, neither on the score of a bad bargain, nor on the score of a bargain at all, could any very substantial complaint be made against the Government.

With reference to His Honor's remarks as to the Famine Insurance Fund, on the occasion of the discussions regarding the original Bill, his hon'ble

friend had avoided quoting the whole of them, probably because they were too lengthy, but His Honor would like to add to what had been read out by quoting a little further. In alluding to the remark about Bengal being allowed to spend something more of its own money, His Honor had said that the object of the present system of decentralization was to put a stop to that state of things, and to secure to Bengal a certain amount of the revenue which it had to raise for itself. "And to substitute for fresh general taxation of which they could have no account, and from which they should receive but little benefit, a system under which they were to impose their own taxation, and look after the development and expenditure of their own finances. But in order that this might be effected, the Government of India naturally asked to be relieved of the cost of constructing local works, which that Government could not have met at the present time without imposing some form or other of taxation. The question was whether they should have local taxation and local administration of the funds thus raised, or imperial taxation and imperial administration of the new revenues to be raised. There was no question of local taxation or no taxation at all. He thought that the principle now introduced was a very sound one, and he looked forward to the measure now inaugurated as one of the first steps towards the progress and prosperity of the country."

He thought it was quite clear from that, that it was not a question of Bengal raising a certain sum of money for famine work, but the question whether the Government of India, for its own purposes and its own work, should impose upon Bengal fresh taxation, or whether the Government of Bengal should be allowed to come forward and say,—“We will pay you the full interest upon the capital you have sunk in certain works in Bengal, if you will leave us alone to raise taxation as we like, and will permit us to spend any surplus which we may get from that taxation on the general improvement of the province.” He had then very distinctly stated what this charge upon new taxation was. He said as regards railways, although they had to meet interest upon the capital as a first charge, there was not one of them which in a few years would not pay the interest upon capital. But they had also to provide capital to extend the system of railways. He gave his reasons for thinking that there had been no measure which would be more beneficial to Bengal than the extension of railways. He had from the very first passing of the Act advocated the great principle of taking up railway after railway, and of selecting one sound scheme after another, and constructing them with capital on which the province only paid the interest, the works selected being those which would turn out most beneficial to the country, would protect it from famines, and also increase its wealth and prosperity, as the proceeds of the decentralization scheme. He had never swerved one moment from that principle. He had a sufficient sum of money to pay for the guaranteed interest upon capital, which would give a very fair prospect of covering Bengal with a network of railways. But such works were now suspended. It might not happen in his time, but he did not in the least despair of seeing this scheme recommenced, which they had left off on a very mistaken view of the facts. He had said so much on the subject on other occasions that he was sure everybody would understand distinctly that there was no one in the country more anxious than he was to see money expended in the way he had indicated—in the way of developing the scheme of railways. The money was there now; they had not spent it. He was now in correspondence with the Government of India trying to get railways recommenced, and he hoped even in the course of the next few days to receive a favourable reply to one application. Any way, the money was there, and even if the money was not spent on railways, there were other public works, such as the South Coast Canal and other works in Orissa which could be worked out as ordinary provincial work. He had not the slightest intention of allotting money raised from this fund to any purposes other than public works. He defied anybody to say that they had not spent in good useful works in the last few years very much more than they received from that fund to meet the requirements of the Act.

As to the question of accounts, His Honor could give the hon'ble member an account in five minutes. It was such a very vague misty matter, that he could give the hon'ble member any number of accounts which would

satisfy the requirements of the law, but which would not show how the money was spent; because they had not only spent the money under the Act, but they had paid interest upon capital to an extent very much beyond what they had collected.

The fact that the interest on public works capital exceeded the proceeds of the Cess Act was in itself an account sufficient for the purposes of the Act, but, as a matter of fact, the Government of Bengal has spent so very much more on public works than it has received from the Public Works Cess that such an account would simply be misleading, and would not represent the progress in public works which has really been made. The matter had before been fully explained, and the inutility of such an account had been clearly demonstrated. He therefore hoped that the matter would now be allowed to drop, especially when it was seen that the Government had, so far from doing less than it ought to have done, done very much more. He hoped the hon'ble member would not press the amendments he had moved.

The motion was then put and negatived.

The HON'BLE KRISTODAS PAL moved to omit section 19. When the Road Cess Act was first passed it was considered a tentative measure, and doubt was expressed as to whether, when a return was not submitted as desired, a double penalty should be provided, first, by means of a daily fine, and next, the disqualification to sue for rent. Even when it was discussed, there was considerable difference of opinion as to whether the double penalty should be retained, and he found that Mr. Wordie, then a member of this Council, took serious objection to this provision of disqualifying proprietors of land from suing. He asked whether the punishment was not disproportionate to the offence, and said—

"In a country like this, where the revenue laws were carried out with great stringency, and where a man's estate was sold up for arrears of revenue, it would be an extreme course that for his recusancy he should not be allowed to collect his rents. He thought it could be shown, from the policy of the Government for many years back, that there ought to be some proportion between the offence and punishment. In old times capital punishment was inflicted for very trivial offences; and the punishment here proposed was of such severity that it might be called capital in the circumstances. If a man would not submit his return, fining him fifty rupees a day was a sufficient penalty, and it might be expected that he would then come forward and do what was required. But if it was said he was not to recover his rents, particularly when there might be a disposition on the part of his tenants to refuse payment, in such cases the disability to sue would act as an incentive to under-tenants to hang back and throw difficulties in the way of collection."

BABOO KRISTODAS PAL would go further, and say that experience had shown that there was no necessity for retaining the double penalty. The returns were submitted by zemindars with most commendable punctuality; the task was novel; very few zemindars kept papers with regularity, still they laboured hard, and submitted returns with which district officers were satisfied. In many cases the time was extended and fines were remitted. However opposed the zemindars were to the imposition of the cess on principle, they conformed to it loyally, and their conduct should receive some recognition. They received no recompense for collecting the cess, and put themselves to no end of trouble in collecting it; but still the Bill would put them beyond the pale of the law for misconduct of which they had not been guilty. He thought the daily fine, and the new provision declaring that a fine might be levied though an appeal had been lodged, would be quite sufficient for the purpose of securing the timely deposit of returns. If still the zemindar should continue to neglect filing his or the zemindar's return, and the Collector could not proceed with the assessment in consequence of recusancy, he had only to make inquiry through his own agency and assess the zemindar accordingly; so that under no circumstances would the work come to a stand-still. He moved that section 19 be omitted, and the necessary alterations be made in section 19A.

The HON'BLE PEARY MOHUN MOOKERJEE said in Hooghly, Burdwan, and the 24-Pergunnahs there was not a single instance in which it was found necessary to put the corresponding section of the existing Act into operation. The section which authorized district officers to impose fines was found to be sufficient for the purpose of enforcing regularity in the filing of returns.

The HON'BLE MR. FIELD said hon'ble gentlemen had heard it stated that experience had shown this section to be unnecessary. He did not think

that this argument for its omission could be supported. It might be perfectly true that returns had been made and sent in with a regularity and punctuality not before expected, but how far this particular provision had been instrumental in bringing about that punctuality the Council had no means of knowing, as there had been no experience of the law without the provision. He thought it very desirable to retain this provision in order to secure a continuance of that creditable regularity and punctuality which zemindars had hitherto shown. For these reasons he opposed the amendment.

The HON'BLE MR. DAMPIER thought the answer just given conclusive so far. If with this penalty hanging over them the zemindars were punctual, it could not from that argument be concluded that with this penalty taken away they would be equally punctual. Still there was the daily fine to be considered, and on the whole MR. DAMPIER would be very glad if the Council would postpone the consideration of this question till the next meeting, in order that he might make inquiries on the subject. He should be inclined to meet the wishes of the hon'ble gentlemen opposite if he thought the omission could safely be made.

The HON'BLE MR. O'KINEALY said he trusted the hon'ble member in charge of the Bill, when he made inquiries of the numbers of cases in which this penal clause had been imposed, would also make inquiries as to the number of cases in which fines were inflicted. If fining by itself was found sufficient to get in all the returns in Bengal, it would be a very serious thing for the Council to say that in addition to that which had been sufficient it was necessary to retain a clause which had never been enforced and experience had not shown to be required.

The HON'BLE MR. DAMPIER said it was impossible to say how far fines had been effective: the effect of a fine could not be dis severed from the effect of this provision held *in terrorem* over zemindars in addition.

After some conversation, the further consideration of the motion was postponed.

The HON'BLE KRISTODAS PAL moved the omission of the words "at the expense of the person lodging the return as aforesaid" at the end of section 19A. The ground on which he proposed this amendment was this, that the zemindar was allowed no remuneration for collecting the cess; he worked the whole machinery of the tax through his own agency, and if any slight mistake was made in the return, the Road Fund should be in equity charged with the cost of serving the notice of correction, and not the zemindar.

The HON'BLE MR. DAMPIER said he did not think the ryot should be made to pay the cost of a notice correcting a wrong assessment made by the zemindar.

The HON'BLE MR. MACKENZIE considered it perfectly right that the zemindar should pay for his own mistake.

The motion was negatived.

The HON'BLE SYED AMEER HOSSEIN moved to omit the words "in addition to the amount due to him under section 46D" in line 8, section 47. He said that he did so in the interest of a large number of petty rent-free holders, who were distinct from those known as revenue-free holders. Generally speaking they held from 2 to 5 bighas of land, and in their circumstance in life they were as poor as cultivating ryots. The provision of the existing law for the collection of cess from these lakhirajdars was that the zemindars collected from them the full amount of cess as it was assessed by the Collector, whereof they paid three-fourths to the Collector and retained one-fourth as the cost of collection. When this Bill was first introduced in Council, a provision was made in it to the effect that, if the rent-free holder made default, he was liable to pay double the amount of the cess. In explanation of that provision, it was said that certain honest zemindars had suffered pecuniary loss by the laches of their rent-free holders, and it was for that reason that a penalty was imposed on the defaulting rent-free holders. That provision SYED AMEER HOSSEIN considered to be fair; but he saw that that provision had since been improved upon. In section 47 it was provided that, if a rent-free holder made default, he would be liable to pay *three times* the cess assessed by the Collector, or *six times* the amount of cess which the zemindar paid to the Collector on account of the lakhiraj land, *i.e.* half the full rate. This was indeed very hard, especially when it was to be considered that, if the zemindar or the tenure-holder made default, he would only have to pay the amount of cess, plus interest at the rate of 12 per cent.; but the rent-free holder would have to

pay a penalty of *six hundred* per cent. He hoped that the Council would not pass such a provision.

The HON'BLE PEART MOHUN MOOKERJEE said the present Bill made the zemindar liable to pay in four quarterly instalments, so that he would have to pay the cess imposed upon lakhiraj lands three months in advance; and taking into account bad debts, and the delay in recovery in times of adversity, he submitted that the provision contained in section 47 was not at all unreasonable. He would therefore oppose the motion as to the imposition of a fine of five times the amount of cess paid by the zemindar (not six times, as the hon'ble member supposed). It was nothing more than another way of expressing a fine of double the amount of cess payable by the lakhirajdar in addition to the amount due on account of arrears of cess; it was simply the mode of expression which made it appear at first sight to be very hard: the amount which the lakhirajdar was liable to pay was not five times the amount of the cess payable by him, but double the amount.

The HON'BLE MR. FIELD explained that the penalty was not one of 600 per cent., but of 200 per cent., namely, the original cess and double that amount in addition. It bore the proportion of one to three, and it must be remembered that the clause was a penalty clause. The object of the penalty was to compel the lakhirajdar to do what he ought to have done in the first instance; and having regard to the small amounts payable, and to the penalty clauses in old Acts, double the amount of cess was really a very small penalty.

The HON'BLE MR. DAMPIER said the question here was nakedly this. To induce the zemindars to assess lakhirajdars, they were allowed to retain fifty per cent. to cover losses as well as the trouble and unpleasantness of the duty. The Select Committee had acted on a strong feeling that it was necessary to give inducements to zemindars, and it was therefore provided that if the lakhirajdar did not pay when the amount was due, the zemindar might recover the whole amount and twice that amount as a penalty. The question for consideration was, as a margin of fifty per cent. was allowed the zemindar to cover losses, &c., was it necessary to give so heavy a penalty in addition? The result of the Select Committee's deliberations was to give this additional compensation to the zemindar. Some thought the zemindar should have twice the amount due, others that interest only at 12 per cent. per annum should be allowed, provided the amount of interest never came to less than a penalty of the whole amount.

After some conversation the further consideration of the motion was postponed.

The HON'BLE KRISTODAS PAL moved the omission of section 67. He considered this provision superfluous. The point was regulated by the law of evidence, and he did not think an Act of this Council could affect the general law of evidence, although a similar provision did exist in the District Road Cess Act of 1871.

The HON'BLE MR. DAMPIER thought it better to retain the section. It was contained in the present law, and if the section was left out, it might be contended that the Legislature had some object in doing so.

HIS HONOR THE PRESIDENT remarked that if the section was left out the law would still remain as it was now: it was only a repetition of the law and imposed no fresh liabilities on anybody. Keeping the provision in the Bill made it more symmetrical.

The motion was then by leave withdrawn.

The HON'BLE KRISTODAS PAL said that he thought section 81 the most important section in the Bill; it enumerated the objects to which the Road Cess Fund was applicable. The first was "the payment of the cost of establishment entertained and expenses incurred by the Collector as mentioned in section 63." In performing this part of his duties the Collector would practically have no check upon him, and would collect the cess under the general provisions of the law, and if he took any arbitrary or illegal proceedings, the Bill gave him power to draw on the Road Cess Fund for the payment of any damages to which he might become liable. BABOO KRISTODAS PAL did not object to that principle; he thought that if the Collector *bonâ fide* took proceedings which turned out to be illegal or arbitrary, he ought to be indemnified the costs or damages in which he might be cast. But he thought that should be done with the sanction of the Lieutenant-Governor. His Honor would see that the proceedings were really *bonâ fide*, and that the Collector did not wilfully override the law and commit any irregularities. If it was thought the Lieutenant-

Governor might not have time to supervise these proceedings of the Collector, he hoped that duty would be delegated to the Board of Revenue, but some check ought to be provided on the proceedings of the Collector. He moved that the costs should be made subject to the sanction of the Lieutenant-Governor.

The HON'BLE MR. DAMPIER observed that the Collector collected the cess for the District Road Committee, and in the course of his collection he might render himself liable to damages by some mistake in procedure; then the District Committee were to indemnify him. His hon'ble friend said the indemnity should require the Lieutenant-Governor's sanction. MR. DAMPIER did not think that necessary. If the District Committee agreed, they could indemnify the Collector; if they did not agree, they would immediately refer the matter to the Lieutenant-Governor, who was the common superior of both. He did not think any amendment was necessary.

The HON'BLE KRISTODAS PAL said cases had come to notice in which things had been done a little roughly, and there were districts in Bengal in which the Road Cess Committees were not capable of acting in the manner in which the hon'ble member suggested. A great many of the Committees were under the control of the Collector himself: he did think that some provision like this was required.

After some conversation it was agreed that such cases were to be made subject to the sanction of the Commissioner of the Division, and the section was amended accordingly.

The HON'BLE KRISTODAS PAL said he had submitted, when the Bill was introduced, that the funds of District Committees were insufficient for the legitimate objects of the cess, and that no funds would be available for the grant of pensions to officers. The subject was discussed by the Select Committee, but he was not satisfied with the result of their deliberations. It was well known that officers of municipalities were not entitled to pension, and he did not think that pensions were absolutely necessary to induce men to serve District Committees. The supply of intellectual labour was so great that persons could easily be got to serve for decent pay, and it was not necessary to hold out further inducements by giving pensions. He moved to omit the words "or pensions" in clause 2, line 5 of section 81.

The HON'BLE MR. MACKENZIE said he was entirely in favour of retaining the words which the hon'ble member wished to omit. He thought himself that the municipality of which the hon'ble member was so active a member did not attach sufficient importance to giving pensions as a means of securing cheaper and better service. It would, however, be seen on reference to the Bill that practically no pension would be given save in the case of the few mohurrirs and clerks who spent their whole lifetime in the service of one and the same District Committee, and certainly such men ought to have pensions.

HIS HONOR THE PRESIDENT said it was a question whether it was not far cheaper to give pensions as a rule than to employ people without the prospect of pension; if pensions were not given, the servants of District Committees would keep on long after they were capable of performing efficient service, and when they could no longer work, they would have to turn out into the streets to starve. As the hon'ble member had just shown, the operation of this clause would have but little practical effect in the working of the Bill.

The motion was negatived.

The HON'BLE KRISTODAS PAL moved to insert the words "such means and appliances not being of a nature to compete with private enterprise" at the end of clause 4 of section 81.

He said it did not come within the legitimate functions of Road Cess Committees to provide steamers for the conveyance of passengers; canals and rivers under the Act were to be considered as corresponding with roads, and district funds might well be applied to their maintenance and improvement; but having constructed or improved a road, he did not think it was the duty of the Road Cess Committee to maintain *dak gharis* for the conveyance of passengers over the road. Similarly, because the Committee would maintain waterways, such as rivers and khals, it did not necessarily follow that they should supply steamers for the convenience and comfort of passengers. In Eastern Bengal there were so many creeks, khals, and rivers that it would certainly be an advantage to the public if steamers were kept up for facility of

communication and traffic. But that was a matter for private enterprise, and it would be an interference with private enterprise if steamers were maintained at the expense of the Road Cess Fund. He should not be surprised if the Collectors, with steamers thus placed at their disposal, should get up district *Rhotas* parties and thus make a cheap show of their sympathy with the people. If the words "means and appliances" were intended to enable the Committee to compete with private enterprise, then he submitted the words ought to be omitted; if that was not the meaning, then he had no objection to their retention; but the provision ought to be made so explicit as not to authorize Road Cess Committees to embark in private enterprise.

The HON'BLE MR. DAMPIER explained that the section was so worded to make it clear that District Committees should have power to provide steamers for communication in the district, or between the district and an adjacent district. Circumstances might arise in which it would be very desirable for a District Committee to nurse a young project until it became capable of being worked independently of the Committee.

The HON'BLE MR. FIELD thought the proposed amendment had a dangerous tendency. It did not distinctly state the nature of the private enterprise which was not to be interfered with—was it private enterprise already in existence, or contemplated private enterprise? Was it to be open to any one, who proposed to raise capital to start a steamer or carry on any other enterprise, to commence litigation with the District Committee as to whether some particular thing which they had done fell within the purview of the words or not. As the amendment stood, it was clear that the insertion of the words proposed would only put the section in a shape which would be likely to lead to litigation.

The HON'BLE MR. MACKENZIE said the hon'ble gentleman did not seem to be consistent with himself; he was perfectly willing that District Committees should contribute towards the construction of railways for the conveyance of passengers and goods by land, but not for steamers for water communication. There were many cases in which a steam-ferry, for instance, would be of great advantage to the district communication. In Sarun, for instance, the District Committee was most anxious to bring the district on the other side of the Ganges into communication with the railway on this side, and it was willing to contribute a small portion of its funds to induce private capitalists to take up the project; and hon'ble members would, he believed, admit that this was just an enterprise of the kind which District Committees ought to be authorized to encourage and foster. The whole of these provisions were subject to the limitation that the work must be such as to benefit the district supplying the money.

HIS HONOR THE PRESIDENT observed that in many districts money could not be more usefully spent for the use of the poorer classes of the people than to bring them in communication with large lines of steam vessels or railway centres by means of cheap ferry-boats, and thus enable them to take advantage of water communications in a way which they could not otherwise do. The Chittagong and Eastern Bengal cases which had been instanced had been pressed upon him. He could see no harm where a water channel existed in allowing local Committees to provide means to enable the people to avail themselves of that means of communication in a way that would make it useful. It did seem inconsistent to allow Committees to construct railways and provide locomotive power upon them, and to say that to make water communication useful they must not provide locomotive power. In certain districts very much more benefit could be derived from the establishment of ferries than by making roads which were not so useful. In Backergunge, which was a rich district, a great deal had been done in this respect, and a great deal more could be done by bringing the district into communication with the great lines of steam communication. His Honor did not think there was the slightest chance of the provision being abused, and he was sure its operation would be of great benefit to the country.

The motion was then negatived.

Section 81 was then agreed to with a verbal amendment made upon the motion of the HON'BLE MR. DAMPIER.

The Council was adjourned to Saturday, the 3rd April.